

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

October 1995

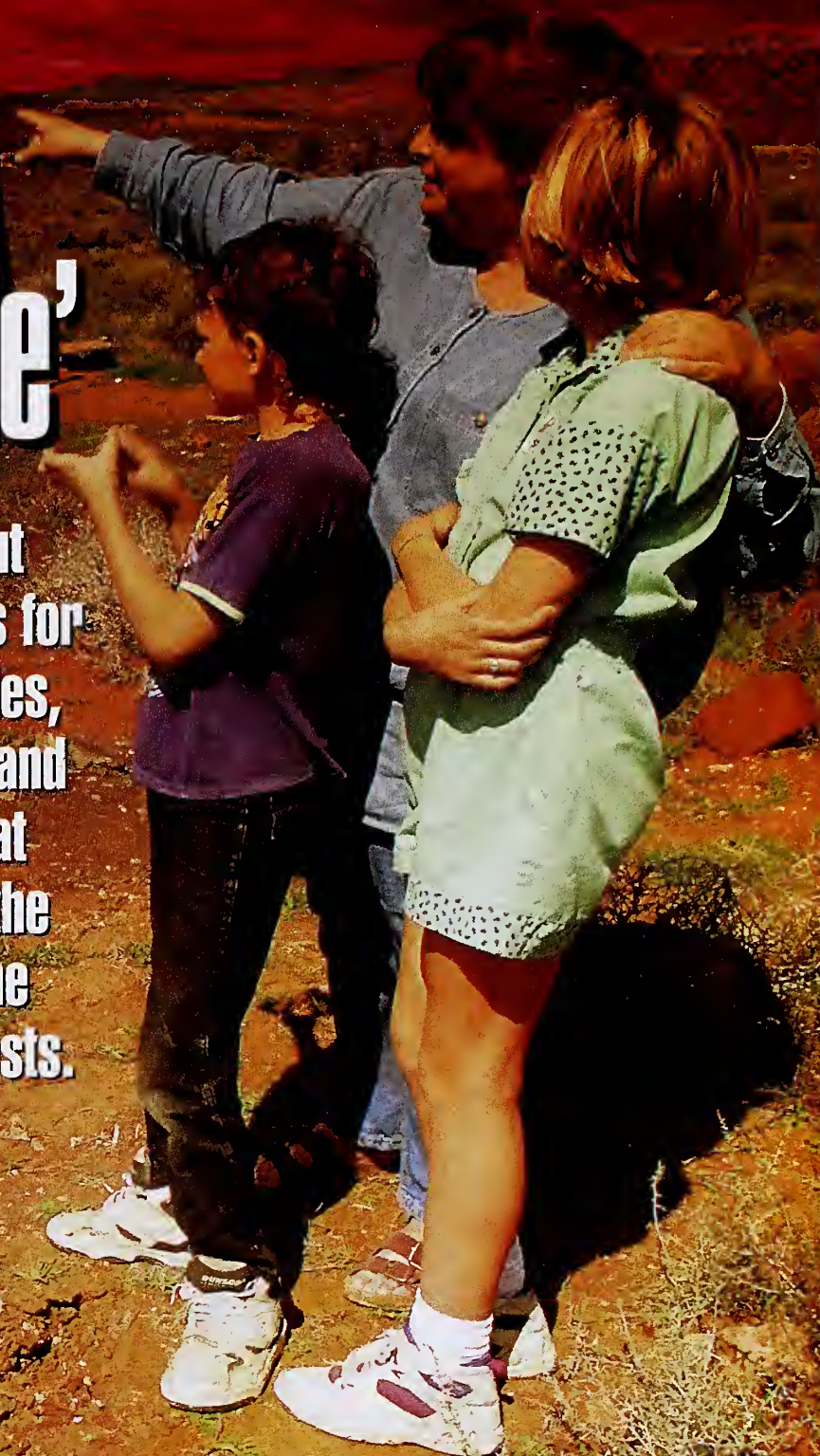
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INTRODUCING  
NATIONAL COMMANDER  
DANIEL A. LUDWIG  
PAGE 34

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# THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Magazine for a Strong America

Vol. 139, No. 4

October 1995

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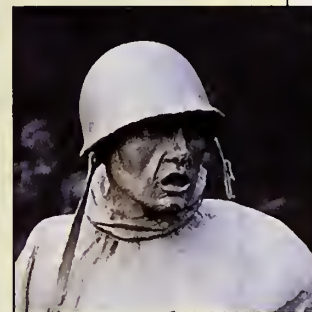
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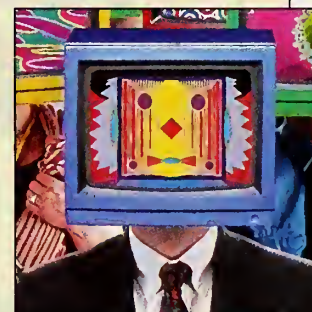
*Those living near U.S. test sites in the Southwest were exposed to nuclear fallout during the '50s and '60s. Elizabeth Wright shows Brandy and Josh Kroubetz where the atomic blasts occurred near St. George, Utah. See Page 20. Photograph by Michael Justice/Mercury Pictures.*



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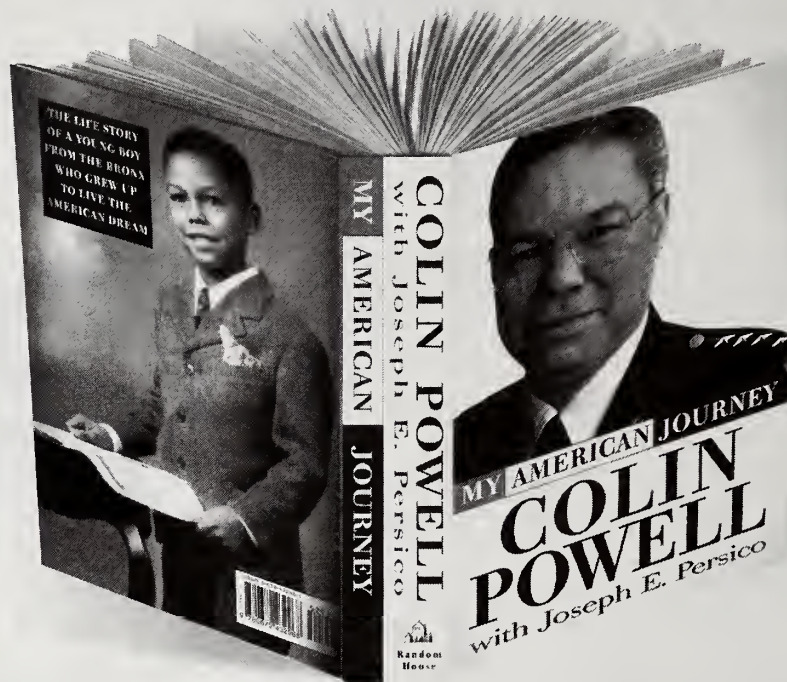
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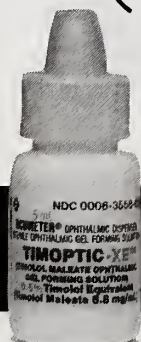
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## Vietnam Views

I applaud National Commander Detweiler's statement concerning Robert McNamara's book about the Vietnam War ("McNamara Should Not Profit From Vietnam Confession," Legion News, July). It wasn't that "the war was unwinnable," as McNamara said. The United States had the power to obliterate North Vietnam from the face of the earth. But the administration would not allow our forces to win.

It was not McNamara's "failed judgment," it was his failed honor and failed honesty that sent U.S. troops to Vietnam.

*Albert J. Forn  
Los Angeles*

I wonder just how many people who are protesting the recognition of Vietnam are driving Japanese cars and watching TV on Japanese-built sets? Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, while negotiators were meeting in Washington, was followed by far more brutal treatment of POWs than was done by the Viet Cong.

*Sam M. Becler  
Skokie, Ill.*

So, the administration thinks it's time to buddy up with Vietnam? I suppose the only thing left to do is name Jane Fonda as ambassador.

*Burton Schindler  
Bella Vista, Ark.*

## History Unchanged

Thank you for Herman G. Harrington's article, "History Upheld" (August). Thank God for The American Legion. The Legion saved the truth about World War II.

*John M. Peregrin  
Newberry, Fla.*

My heart still cries for the 26 Americans who were imprisoned at Hiroshima when it was bombed. Most died under the bomb. Three crawled and crawled their way to freedom from the wreckage, but then they were beaten to death by citizens of Hiroshima.

*Tom S. Selby  
Santa Maria, Calif.*

I suggest the Legion and all veterans boycott ABC and their advertisers until the network and Peter Jennings apologizes for its insulting special on the dropping of the atomic bomb.

*Ray Atherley  
Lantana, Fla.*

## Missing Foreign Policy

Elliott Abrams's article, "Foreign Policy: Does America Have One?" (August), was well-researched, well-documented, and his conclusions were right on target. However, the title should have been attributed to Eleanor Roosevelt, who gave that response when asked her opinion on U.S. relations with foreign countries.

We can logically conclude, what's new?

*Don Vogtman  
Edina, Minn.*

## Spratly No Hot Spot

Perry Wood, author of "Storm Clouds Over The South China Sea" (July), seems to have information that those of us who have been to the

Spratly islands somehow missed. I was there in the submarine *USS Sculpin* in July 1942. We were sent there on a reconnaissance mission to see what was going on at Itu Aba. The only thing there was a few lonesome palm trees on one end of the sand spit. There were no bases.

Those islands are 300 miles from any mainland areas. They are not positioned near major sea and air traffic corridors. And none of the islands is big enough to support a base of any consequence. Wood failed to consult anything or anyone more than an atlas to paint his ominous picture.

*Rear Admiral Corwin Mendenhall  
(Ret.)  
Benbrook, Texas*

## Fingers Of Healing

The article, "Magic Fingers: Easing The Pain Of PTSD" (July by Don Oldenburg), is crucial to all suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. I can tell you from personal experience, the Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) truly works. After my 8-year-old son suffered a trauma, he was unable to eat properly and slept only about three hours a night. His screams were heartbreaking. Abandoning conventional therapy, he began EMDR sessions. Unbelievably, after the first session, I saw my son smile for the first time in weeks. After a month, the visions ceased. It's been four months now, with only one regression. He laughs, plays, sleeps normally and has gained 14 pounds. Truly "magic fingers" saved my son.

*Gregory L. Engman  
Colorado Springs, Colo.*

The article, "Magic Fingers," contained an error: It referred to the "Hypocratic Oath." It should be Hippocratic Oath. Certainly, Hippocrates, the father of medicine, should not be accused of being a hypocrite.

*Harry Malfas  
Holyoke, Mass.*

## Parks In Neutral

My husband and I spent nearly 30 years in the U.S. National Park System and U.S. Forest Service. Reading  
*Please turn page*

## WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE welcomes letters to the editor concerning articles that appear in the publication. Be sure to include hometown and a daytime phone number for verification. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters are subject to editing for clarity and brevity.

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CARDIZEM is contraindicated in (1) patients with sick sinus syndrome except in the presence of a functioning ventricular pacemaker, (2) patients with second- or third-degree AV block except in the presence of a functioning ventricular pacemaker, (3) patients with hypotension (less than 90 mm Hg systolic), (4) patients who have demonstrated hypersensitivity to the drug, and (5) patients with acute myocardial infarction and pulmonary congestion documented by x-ray on admission.

**WARNINGS**

- Cardiac Conduction.** CARDIZEM prolongs AV node refractory periods without significantly prolonging sinus node recovery time, except in patients with sick sinus syndrome. This effect may rarely result in abnormally slow heart rates (particularly in patients with sick sinus syndrome) or second- or third-degree AV block (13 of 3290 patients or 0.40%). Concomitant use of diltiazem with beta-blockers or digitalis may result in additive effects on cardiac conduction. A patient with Prinzmetal's angina developed periods of asystole (2 to 5 seconds) after a single dose of 60 mg of diltiazem.
- Congestive Heart Failure.** Although diltiazem has a negative inotropic effect in isolated animal tissue preparations, hemodynamic studies in humans with normal ventricular function have not shown a reduction in cardiac index nor consistent negative effects on contractility (dp/dt). An acute study of oral diltiazem in patients with impaired ventricular function (ejection fraction 24% ± 6%) showed improvement in indices of ventricular function without significant decrease in contractile function (dp/dt). Worsening of congestive heart failure has been reported in patients with preexisting impairment of ventricular function. Experience with the use of CARDIZEM (diltiazem hydrochloride) in combination with beta-blockers in patients with impaired ventricular function is limited. Caution should be exercised when using this combination.
- Hypotension.** Decreases in blood pressure associated with CARDIZEM therapy may occasionally result in symptomatic hypotension.
- Acute Hepatic Injury.** Mild elevations of transaminases with and without concomitant elevation in alkaline phosphatase and bilirubin have been observed in clinical studies. Such elevations were usually transient and frequently resolved even with continued diltiazem treatment. In rare instances, significant elevations in enzymes such as alkaline phosphatase, LDH, SGPT, SGPT, and other phenomena consistent with acute hepatic injury have been noted. These reactions tended to occur early after therapy initiation (1 to 8 weeks) and have been reversible upon discontinuation of drug therapy. The relationship to CARDIZEM is uncertain in some cases, but probable in some. (See PRECAUTIONS.)

**PRECAUTIONS**

**General**

CARDIZEM (diltiazem hydrochloride) is extensively metabolized by the liver and excreted by the kidneys and in bile. As with any drug given over prolonged periods, laboratory parameters of renal and hepatic function should be monitored at regular intervals. The drug should be used with caution in patients with impaired renal or hepatic function. In subacute and chronic dog and rat studies designed to produce toxicity, high doses of diltiazem were associated with hepatic damage. In special subacute hepatic studies, oral doses of 125 mg/kg and higher in rats were associated with histological changes in the liver which were reversible when the drug was discontinued. In dogs, doses of 20 mg/kg were also associated with hepatic changes; however, these changes were reversible with continued dosing. Dermatological events (see ADVERSE REACTIONS section) may be transient and may disappear despite continued use of CARDIZEM. However, skin eruptions progressing to erythema multiforme and/or exfoliative dermatitis have also been infrequently reported. Should a dermatologic reaction persist, the drug should be discontinued.

**Drug Interactions**

Due to the potential for additive effects, caution and careful titration are warranted in patients receiving CARDIZEM concomitantly with other agents known to affect cardiac contractility and/or conduction. (See WARNINGS.) Pharmacologic studies indicate that there may be additive effects in prolonging AV conduction when using beta-blockers or digitalis concomitantly with CARDIZEM. (See WARNINGS.) As with all drugs, care should be exercised when treating patients with multiple medications. CARDIZEM undergoes biotransformation by cytochrome P-450 mixed function oxidase. Coadministration of CARDIZEM with other agents which follow the same route of biotransformation may result in the competitive inhibition of metabolism. Especially in patients with renal and/or hepatic impairment, dosages of similarly metabolized drugs, particularly those of low therapeutic ratio, may require adjustment when starting or stopping concomitantly administered diltiazem to maintain optimum therapeutic blood levels.

**Beta-blockers.** Controlled and uncontrolled domestic studies suggest that concomitant use of CARDIZEM and beta-blockers is usually well tolerated, but available data are not sufficient to predict the effects of concomitant treatment in patients with left ventricular dysfunction or cardiac conduction abnormalities.

Administration of CARDIZEM (diltiazem hydrochloride) concomitantly with propranolol in five normal volunteers resulted in increased propranolol levels in all subjects and bioavailability of propranolol was increased approximately 50%. In vitro, propranolol appears to be displaced from its binding sites by diltiazem. If combination therapy is initiated or withdrawn in conjunction with propranolol, an adjustment in the propranolol dose may be warranted. (See WARNINGS.)

**Cimetidine.** A study in six healthy volunteers has shown a significant increase in peak diltiazem plasma levels (58%) and area-under-the-curve (53%) after a 1-week course of cimetidine at 1200 mg per day and a single dose of diltiazem 60 mg. Ranitidine produced smaller, nonsignificant increases. The effect may be mediated by cimetidine's known inhibition of hepatic cytochrome P-450, the enzyme system responsible for the first-pass metabolism of diltiazem. Patients currently receiving diltiazem therapy should be carefully monitored for a change in pharmacological effect when initiating and discontinuing therapy with cimetidine. An adjustment in the diltiazem dose may be warranted.

**Digitalis.** Administration of CARDIZEM with digoxin in 24 healthy male subjects increased plasma digoxin concentrations approximately 20%. Another investigator found no increase in digoxin levels in 12 patients with coronary artery disease. Since there have been conflicting results regarding the effect of digoxin levels, it is recommended that digoxin levels be monitored when initiating, adjusting, and discontinuing CARDIZEM therapy to avoid possible over- or under-digitalization. (See WARNINGS.)

**Anesthetics.** The depression of cardiac contractility, conductivity, and automaticity as well as the vascular dilation associated with anesthetics may be potentiated by calcium channel blockers. When used concomitantly, anesthetics and calcium blockers should be titrated carefully.

**Cyclosporine.** A pharmacokinetic interaction between diltiazem and cyclosporine has been observed during studies involving renal and cardiac transplant patients. In renal and cardiac transplant recipients, a reduction of cyclosporine dose ranging from 15% to 48% was necessary to maintain cyclosporine trough concentrations similar to those seen prior to the addition of diltiazem. If these agents are to be administered concurrently, cyclosporine concentrations should be monitored, especially when diltiazem therapy is initiated, adjusted, or discontinued. The effect of cyclosporine on diltiazem plasma concentrations has not been evaluated.

**Carbamazepine.** Concomitant administration of diltiazem with carbamazepine has been reported to result in elevated serum levels of carbamazepine (40% to 72% increase), resulting in toxicity in some cases. Patients receiving these drugs concurrently should be monitored for a potential drug interaction.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

A 24-month study in rats at oral dosage levels of up to 100 mg/kg/day and a 21-month study in mice at oral dosage levels of up to 30 mg/kg/day showed no evidence of carcinogenicity. There was also no mutagenic response in vitro or in vivo in mammalian cell assays or in vitro in bacteria. No evidence of impaired fertility was observed in a study performed in male and female rats at oral dosages of up to 100 mg/kg/day.

**Pregnancy**

Category C. Reproduction studies have been conducted in mice, rats, and rabbits. Administration of doses ranging from five to ten times greater (on a mg/kg basis) than the daily recommended therapeutic dose has resulted in embryo and fetal lethality. These doses, in some studies, have been reported to cause skeletal abnormalities. In the perinatal/postnatal studies, there was an increased incidence of stillbirths at doses of 20 times the human dose or greater. There are no well-controlled studies in pregnant women; therefore, use CARDIZEM in pregnant women only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Nursing Mothers**

Diltiazem is excreted in human milk. One report suggests that concentrations in breast milk may approximate serum levels. If use of CARDIZEM is deemed essential, an alternative method of infant feeding should be instituted.

**Pediatric Use**

Safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Serious adverse reactions have been rare in studies carried out to date, but it should be recognized that patients with impaired ventricular function and cardiac conduction abnormalities have usually been excluded from these studies. The following table presents the most common adverse reactions reported in placebo-controlled angina and hypertension trials in patients receiving CARDIZEM CD up to 360 mg with rates in placebo patients shown for comparison.

CARDIZEM CD Capsule Placebo-Controlled Angina and Hypertension Trials Combined		
Adverse Reactions	Cardizem CD (n=607)	Placebo (n=301)
Headache	5.4%	5.0%
Dizziness	3.0%	3.0%
Bradycardia	3.3%	1.3%
AV Block First Degree	3.3%	0.0%
Edema	2.6%	1.3%
ECG Abnormality	1.6%	2.3%
Asthenia	1.8%	1.7%

In clinical trials of CARDIZEM CD capsules, CARDIZEM tablets, and CARDIZEM SR capsules involving over 3200 patients, the most common events (ie, greater than 1%) were edema (4.6%), headache (4.6%), dizziness (3.5%), asthenia (2.6%), first-degree AV block (2.4%), bradycardia (1.7%), flushing (1.4%), nausea (1.4%), and rash (1.2%).

In addition, the following events were reported infrequently (less than 1%) in angina or hypertension trials:

**Cardiovascular:** Angina, arrhythmia, AV block (second- or third-degree), bundle branch block, congestive heart failure, ECG abnormalities, hypotension, palpitations, syncope, tachycardia, ventricular extrasystoles.

**Nervous System:** Abnormal dreams, amnesia, depression, gait abnormality, hallucinations, insomnia, nervousness, paresthesia, personality change, somnolence, tinnitus, tremor.

**Gastrointestinal:** Anorexia, constipation, diarrhea, dry mouth, dysgeusia, dyspepsia, mild elevations of SGOT, SGPT, LDH, and alkaline phosphatase (see hepatic warnings), thirst, vomiting, weight increase.

**Dermatological:** Petechiae, photosensitivity, pruritus, urticaria.

**Other:** Amblyopia, CPK increase, dyspnea, epistaxis, eye irritation, hyperglycemia, hyperuricemia, impotence, muscle cramps, nasal congestion, nocturia, osteoarticular pain, polyuria, sexual difficulties.

The following postmarketing events have been reported infrequently in patients receiving CARDIZEM: alopecia, erythema multiforme, exfoliative dermatitis, extrapyramidal symptoms, gingival hyperplasia, hemolytic anemia, increased bleeding time, leukopenia, purpura, retinopathy, and thrombocytopenia. In addition, events such as myocardial infarction have been observed which are not readily distinguishable from the natural history of the disease in these patients. A number of well-documented cases of generalized rash, characterized as leukocytoclastic vasculitis, have been reported. However, a definitive cause and effect relationship between these events and CARDIZEM therapy is yet to be established.

Prescribing Information as of April 1993

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# VETVOICE

the article, "Parks in Peril" (July by Gary Turbak), brought tears to my eyes. Something dear and close to my heart is severely threatened. Fifteen years ago when my husband retired as a superintendent in the NPS, most of the same problems described in the article were already present.

There has been a great increase in concession souvenir shops. People don't want a shopping spree when they visit Mt. Rushmore. Hopefully your article will bring this serious problem to the front.

Shirley L. Hazeltine  
Custer, S.D.

## Reveille, Part II

You are right, Ernest Bedsole ("We Need A Wake-Up Call," Vetvoice, July). We need a training program for our future officers.

I can remember when we would barely have room for all our members attending our regular meetings. We used the Post's "big" room. Now we use a small conference room off the barroom. Part of the reason is that many of our vets don't want to commit themselves. Another reason is that we do not recognize some of our veterans. They deserve our attention and respect.

Yes, comrade Bedsole, we do need a wake-up call, and if we don't heed it, we will not have a Legion.

A.D. Walker  
Hoopeston, Ill.

## Overseas Memorials

The May issue of the magazine is full of good articles about Memorial Day. But there are thousands of veterans who still rest in graves in many foreign countries and were not even mentioned once. Here in Europe, we find veterans' graves in small rural cemeteries to the large cemeteries maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission. None of these are forgotten on Memorial Day, thanks to the local American Legion Posts, the Boys Scouts, the American Overseas Memorial Day Association and our many European friends.

Let us not forget these men and women who didn't quite make it home.

Richard Charpentier  
Post Adjutant  
Paris Post 1 □



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# SHOULD CONGRESS TERMINATE AMERICORPS?

**Rep. Marge Roukema (R-New Jersey)**

Until recently, the proud tradition of voluntarism was the essence of the American community. It was an embodiment of the American experience, neighbor helping neighbor, young and old alike. You didn't get paid. It was expected of you. Teachers taught its virtue in school and parents taught it at home.

## YES



And so I ask the question in stating my opposition to the National Service Act and AmeriCorps: What has the nation come to when we feel it necessary to spend \$1.7 billion we don't have (over three years) for voluntary service?

If we need to encourage civic-mindedness—and we do—clearly paying schools, students and other “volunteer” groups to participate is contradictory to that goal.

More important, we have no business creating yet another federal program while established, worthwhile and tested programs go starving for funds. Student financial aid, vocational education, work-study programs and nutrition programs will still be underfunded.

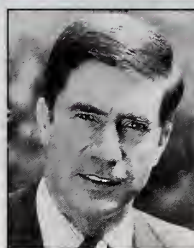
We are planting the seed of a brand-new program that will sprout and flourish until it grows into a full-blown entitlement program with its own constituency and momentum. Establishing a new federal entitlement at a time when the failure of such programs has prompted the House to vote to replace them with block grants to the states is inconsistent. Can we explain that to the taxpayers? I think not.

As the President pledged in his 1992 campaign, our efforts today must be concentrated on reducing the federal deficit and restoring our economy. When our top college graduates can't find decent jobs, our efforts must be concentrated on reinvigorating business through capital investment. This is key to boosting our economy and creating the cutting-edge jobs that will continue the U.S. role as a global economic leader.

Indeed, if we are bound and determined to spend \$1.7 billion we don't have, then let's stop this charade and apply the money to existing, successful programs—not some untested, bureaucratic boondoggle.

The answer to our “volunteer dilemma” does not lie with more government spending. The answer lies with every parent, teacher and mentor whose duty it is to instill in our children and young people the proud tradition of the American Volunteer. ☐

**Sen. Charles S. Robb (D-Virginia)**



## NO

The current debate over national service in general, and AmeriCorps in particular, is a discussion I welcome. Programs managed by the government at any level can be improved and benefit from public review.

In 1989, Sen. Sam Nunn and I introduced legislation to replace federal student loan programs with education and housing vouchers earned by participating in civilian national service. It became the basis for a section of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, signed into law by President Bush.

My support for AmeriCorps is rooted in a strong belief in the benefits of national service for all Americans. I would, in fact, go so far as to support a system of mandatory national service for all young people—be it military or civilian.

How can we encourage our children to feel an obligation and a responsibility to contribute to the strength and security of America throughout their lives?

Military service is one way. But as we readjust to a post-Cold War world, as we take advantage of more advanced technology, we need fewer military personnel. And fewer of our people—240,000 less today than in 1993—will have the opportunity, indeed, the privilege, to serve.

Opponents of AmeriCorps point out that caring citizens throughout our country contribute countless hours of community service without receiving a penny in return. I deeply respect those volunteers who find time in the evenings and on weekends to contribute to a cause they value.

But we're talking about national and community service. National service means carving out a year or two of our lives, earning a modest stipend and working each and every day to affect the future in a positive way.

It is my hope that national service will be a catalyst for a lifetime of community service.

It is my hope that experiencing the tangible results of strengthening, building and teaching will convince our people that citizenship has value, that individuals who roll up their sleeves and enter the fray can personally make our nation better, richer, stronger.

With every national service slot we fund, we give another American an intense, all encompassing opportunity to serve. And by investing in them, I believe that they, in turn, will invest in us. ☐

### YOUR OPINIONS COUNT, TOO

Senators and congressmen are interested in constituent viewpoints. You may express your views by writing The Honorable (name), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, or The Honorable (name), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Or, you may call the U.S. Senate at: (202) 224-3121; and the House at (202) 225-3121.



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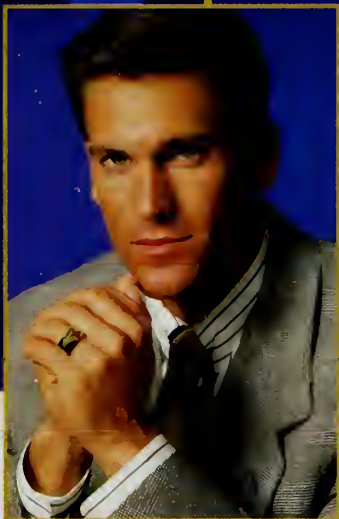
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## They're Back...

The Soviets are dead—but the Russians are very much alive, and they stand to profit from the disaster in Bosnia because of the historic ties between the Russians and Serbs. According to retired Air Force Col. Jim Slagle, a former arms-control negotiator, the Serb-dominated former Yugoslavia could eventually end up as a “new satellite for the Russian federation.” In the short term, this could inflame tensions between the United States and Russia should the Clinton administration opt for greater military involvement in Bosnia.

But wait, it gets worse. In an article for the Army journal, *Parameters*, Slagle warns that Russia is spending heavily to modernize its strategic arsenal and that the country has reverted to the hard-line Cold War doctrine emphasizing a “preemptive” nuclear first strike against the United States.

The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency's classified annual report goes even further, alleging that Russia is secretly violating the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention. Interestingly, a public version of the ACDA report omitted this provocative charge, stating only that Moscow has “not resolved all U.S. concerns” about its biological-weapons programs. Hmmm. Cover-up, anyone?

## ...and On Our Tab

More than a few Washington insiders hope that disclosures about Russia's continued development of strategic nuclear and biological weapons will put the brakes on the Nunn-Lugar program intended to help dismantle these weapons. To date, Congress has authorized \$1.6 billion for the effort.

A General Accounting Office report acknowledges that the Russians have used at least some of the money to “reactivate dormant weapons facilities.” That's a nice way of saying we bought them guns they're now pointing at us.

Of particular concern is \$21 million in Nunn-Lugar funds earmarked for Moscow's International Science and Technology Center. The payoff was supposed to thwart nuclear proliferation by discouraging under-employed Russian nuclear scientists from freelancing

*Washington-based Cliff Kincaid writes for Human Events and other publications.*



## WASHINGTON WATCH

*By Cliff Kincaid*

for other nations. Now it appears the millions are going toward aggressive new research inside Moscow.

## Just Say Yes?

What timing. As communities grapple with a worsening drug problem, a little-known agency called the U.S. Sentencing Commission has proposed reductions in federal penalties for trafficking in cocaine, laundering drug-money, possessing drug paraphernalia and growing marijuana plants.

The commission, which sets penalties for federal crimes, says this will make penalties more consistent and even-handed. Justice Department officials from Attorney General Janet Reno on down beg to differ. If Congress doesn't kill the new statutes by Nov. 1, they become law.

Meanwhile, the White House's National Drug Control Policy (NDCP) office faces abolition. Agency director Lee P. Brown has drawn fire for his priorities—such as attacking Royal Crown soda and Big League Chew bubble gum, whose products “look like” beer and tobacco and supposedly send the wrong message to kids. The irony is that NDCP has itself been attacked for sending kids the message that “doing drugs is not a crime,” which leads to the “destigmatization” of drug use, to quote

Sen. Richard Shelby of Alabama.

The *Washington Post* also revealed that NDCP was top-heavy with six-figure salaries. A dozen of its 42 staffers reside at the \$100,000 plateau.

## HIV Negatives

A just-published book says the U.S. military's handling of AIDS within the ranks has been a “role model” because of routine screening, as well as early treatment and notification of those infected. Elsewhere, however, the news is less good. According to a recent book, *The Gravest Show on Earth*, “politics, greed, stupidity and ego” have prevented significant progress in fighting the disease.

Author and former *Miami Herald* reporter Elinor Burkett faults the “AIDS establishment” in Washington, D.C., for wasting billions of dollars and getting no closer to a cure.

Among Burkett's other findings: the HIV virus alone does not cause AIDS; the drug AZT is only marginally effective in fighting the disease; and the accuracy of AIDS tests is questionable.

Burkett wonders if there is a link between AIDS, Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome and Gulf War Syndrome.

## Blow Up

Fifty members of Congress and their staffs have met with him, but nobody's talking on the record about a retired Air Force brigadier general's charge that a truck bomb alone could not have caused the massive damage to the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

The general, Benton K. Partin, dismisses comparisons between the Oklahoma tragedy and the Lebanon barracks bombing of 1983. He notes that in the Lebanon tragedy, the bomb was driven right under the relatively flimsy structure, whereas the Oklahoma federal building was much stronger and the bomb was farther away. Partin, who has an impressive background in explosives and weapons, insists that the Oklahoma blast was caused primarily by four separate demolition charges at the building's column bases.

A spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms criticized the report, saying “if he's got the credentials, so do we” and “our expertise will come out” during the trial of accused bomber Timothy McVeigh. □



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WITH THIS month's issue, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE unveils its first new recurring column in four years. "On Duty" will feature news and information that active-duty people and members of the Reserves can put to work in their daily lives—"news you can use," to borrow the popular catchphrase.

Like our sponsor organization, we at the magazine know that active-duty people and Reserve members have special needs, problems and interests. Each month in this space we will address such topics as: housing; employment; health care; child care; life on base; dealing with "downsizing"; planning the transition to civilian life; and many, many others. In addition, in future months we will include a collection of newsclips from around the world of active duty—short items that show where America's armed forces are today and where they may be headed in the future.

Finally, we recognize that active-duty members are not normally free to speak out on the major military issues of the day. We aim to be your voice and invite you to write us with your concerns and opinions.

No names will be used.

Simply put: Because you are on duty for America, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE is on duty for you.

## JOB-HUNTING HELP



IF YOU'RE thinking about leaving the service for a civilian job, you need to know where to look and who to call. "Each state has job offices with special placement services for veterans, and that's a good place to start," says Legion Economic Commission Chairman Allen L. Titus. "Joining your local Legion Post is another great way to make job contacts."

Through a network that consists of the Interstate Job Bank, America's Job Bank and a new system called ALEX (Automated Labor Exchange), your local job service can tap into a national computer job database that matches up your skills with available employment opportunities. With ALEX, you can type your Military Occupational Code (MOC) into a computer and call up civilian jobs that require your skills.

Other job sources include two toll-free numbers: DoD's Transition Bulletin Board Databank, 1-800-727-3677; and the Army Employee and Alumni Network, 1-800-445-2049 for Army veterans. For more assistance, write: The American Legion Economic Division, 1608 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20006.

Info on 485 metropolitan areas with the best outlook for hiring in various industries can be obtained from Manpower Inc., a leading temporary help firm. Contact a local Manpower office, or write to their Strategic Information Dept., P.O. Box 2053, Milwaukee, WI 53201-2053. For the record, Colorado tops most lists.

# ON DUTY



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...a bill is moving through Congress that would deny unemployment benefits to GIs who voluntarily separate from the military?

...you are eligible to join the Legion?

## COMMISSARIES UNDER FIRE



THE \$1 billion commissary subsidy is a juicy target as Congress attempts to bring the federal deficit under control. Proposals being considered in Washington include phasing out all stateside commissaries and increasing the surcharge in those maintained overseas, where about half the commissary budget is spent.

The American Legion strongly opposes closing domestic commissaries, but the proposal has tremendous appeal to independent grocers and major grocery chains, who see the prospect of windfall profits from both active-duty people and retirees once commissaries shut their doors.

Closure would be felt the hardest by those who could afford it the least. To the average married E-4 with kids, nearly 6 percent of monthly income would be lost to increased grocery costs—devastating news at a time when economists estimate that military pay, including benefits, already lags about 12 percent behind comparable positions in civilian life.

Other proposals that stop short of closure include increasing the amount of profit—currently set at 5 percent of cost for grocery items—to 15 percent. Another plan would close U.S. commissaries, but increase military subsistence pay by \$30 a month, less than one-third the actual savings a family of four gets by shopping commissaries.

## NEED A HAND? CALL US!



MARINE Lance Cpl. Joey Smith of Camp Lejeune, N.C., was

about to be discharged. He wanted to know if VA would pay for an operation on his back, which he injured while on active duty. So he called The American Legion's hotline—1 (800) 588-3365.

Terry White, a Gulf War veteran from St. Louis, called the hotline for information on Gulf War Syndrome. His wife was nine months pregnant and having difficulties.

Tom Gray of Alexandria, Va., called for information on veterans' benefits. Edward H. Watson Jr. of Chattanooga, Tenn., wanted Legion help in getting his discharge from the National Guard so he could join the Navy Reserve.

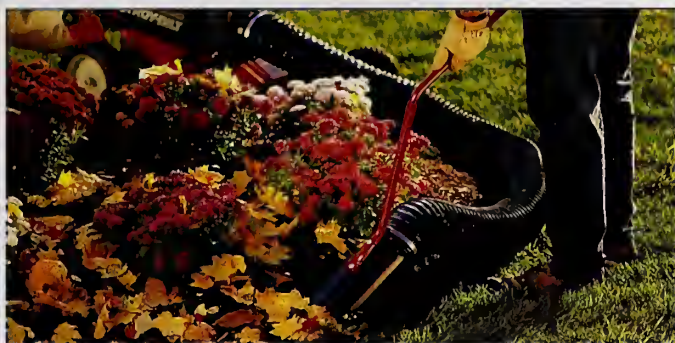
A sailor's pay record is all fouled up and he doesn't get paid on schedule.... An airman and his family who are short of cash have car trouble as they move to another assignment.... A Vietnam vet needs help in filing a VA claim.... A career sergeant is trying to find a college scholarship for his daughter.

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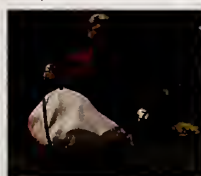
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**LOOKING BACK—**  
The Korean War Veterans Memorial ignites conversation through the questions it raises: *Why is the last soldier looking behind him as he advances?*

# The Long, Silent March

*"In our sleep, pain  
that cannot forget  
falls drop by drop  
upon the heart...."*

—Inscription on  
a wall at  
Arlington National  
Cemetery

**T**HE YOUNG man to my right wants to know what the commotion is all about. We are standing on Constitution Avenue outside the tent city that has sprung up to accommodate the hordes come to Washington this hot, humid week in late July. My questioner looks to be about 16 or 17. He wears a pair of loop ear-

rings and the modified Mohawk haircut now in vogue among members of his generation.

I tell him we are here for the dedication of a memorial to those who fought in Korea. He is silent for a moment. Then his brow furrows and he says, "We actually fought in Korea?"

It was a while ago, I tell him.

He nods. "I thought that was just a TV show," he says.

I smile, wondering how many other youngsters' perceptions of what happened in Korea were shaped entirely by reruns of *M\*A\*S\*H*. My own son once said that Korea must have been a "really fun place," what with everybody running around spouting wise-cracks all the time. You wonder: What the hell are they teaching kids in school these days? I suppose that to most of today's generation, Korea

means little more than cheap cars and TV sets.

Korea was much more than that, of course, to the 1.5 million Americans who served there—some 54,000 of whom took their last breaths during the war fought there. To them, Korea was a hellish place of cruel extremes, of sweltering heat and limb-killing cold. Korea was also cruel for broader reasons. It was the first war the United States fought to a stalemate. With Korea was born the dismal concept of "limited war" that came back with a vengeance in the Vietnam era. If people have preferred to forget what took place in Korea, it may be because what took place there is not the stuff of pleasant memories.

To those Americans who were called to Korea between 1950 and 1953, however, the war defies forgetting. And that is why so many thou-





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## The Long, Silent March

sands of us are here in Washington on July 27, 1995.

**I**N THE stifling mid-morning heat, we mill about before the start of a memorial service at Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Earlier this day, President Clinton, American Legion National Commander William M. Detweiler and others participated in a private wreath-laying ceremony here. Now the throng has swelled to a sweaty 5,000, who wait to hear from Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown and from former Congressman Stan Parris of Virginia, sponsor of the legislation that authorized building the memorial. Around me is a sea of hats from at least a dozen nations who fought in the allied Korean action. Also represented are countless companies, battalions and other informal groups, including more than a few of the vaunted Chosin Few. T-shirts, caps and banners bear the memorial's official theme: **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.**

While the Navy band gets settled in place, I ask people what brought them here. A woman whose father died in Korea says she came because she "had to." Asked to elaborate, she shrugs; tears well in her eyes. She says she has always felt a certain "confusion" about what we were trying to accomplish in Korea, about why her father had to die in this strange, far-off place. She hopes

to find something in the memorial service that will give her the sense of closure she has sought for some 40 years now.

A hundred yards removed from the site, Ottis C. Teston, a disabled Legionnaire from Fernandina Beach, Fla., is sitting on one of the graceful stone ledges that frame the large expanses of grass at Arlington. Like most in attendance, Teston and his wife came to Washington specifically for the dedication, at considerable cost. He spent three years as a prisoner-of-war, one of 7,000 American POWs in Korea (2,700 of whom died in captivity). During that time he sometimes wondered if the government was doing all it could to free him. Now Teston says he still feels forgotten, despite the memorial.

"They sure didn't go out of their way for us when they organized this thing," he grumbles. "You'd think that of all the people entitled to come here, the POWs would be first on the list—that we'd get special seating or something. But we can't even get near the service." Mary Frances Teston wears a small button that says, **EX-POW's WIFE.** She too complains bitterly: "They just wrote us off. The government wrote us off then, and they're doing it again now."

A more upbeat perspective comes from X Corps alumnus Jim Lakin of Titusville, Fla. Smiling broadly, Lakin proclaims the memorial dedication "the most exciting thing I've been involved in for many years." (This,

from a man who can see the space shuttle take off from his front lawn.) He adds, "We were there at Inchon, you know, and we were there at Chosin." He sighs, shakes his head. "It's been a long uphill fight to get this thing done."

We are interrupted by the commencement of a 21-gun salute; for several moments, there is eerie silence save for the echoing report of the guns. Jesse Brown arrives in a limo, framed by Secret Service. The bands plays *The Star Spangled Banner*, then a lone bugler sounds *Taps*. The mournful notes set the women to softly weeping, but the men seem to be crying even harder, a mixture of sweat and tears streaming down their cheeks. It is

clear that the horror of war, like the death of a child, lingers someplace deep inside, no matter how much time passes. Now in their sixth and seventh decades of life, the men who fought in Korea left something of themselves, some softness or innocence, back on those battlefields. And they took away a hurt that will stay with them till they die.

Thankfully, the band brightens the mood with an up-tempo march, and the speakers approach the mike. Col. Rosemary McCarthy, vice chairman of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board, notes that "no location is more appropriate" for this day's services. Former congressman Parris points out that the organized movement to build a memorial began 10 years ago this day right here at Arlington. In the intervening decade, he adds, "it has never rained in Washington on July 27." The crowd cheers. Later, alluding to Korea's status as the so-called "forgotten war," Jesse Brown says, "If there has been silence, let us now break it with words of praise."

As the service concludes the band plays *America the Beautiful*. Everyone sings along, and an amazing thing happens: Though it is 95 degrees outside, a chill takes hold of my spine and just won't let go.

**T**HE KOREAN War Veterans Memorial sits on the mall near the Lincoln and Vietnam Veterans memorials, in the figurative shadow of

*Please turn to page 56*



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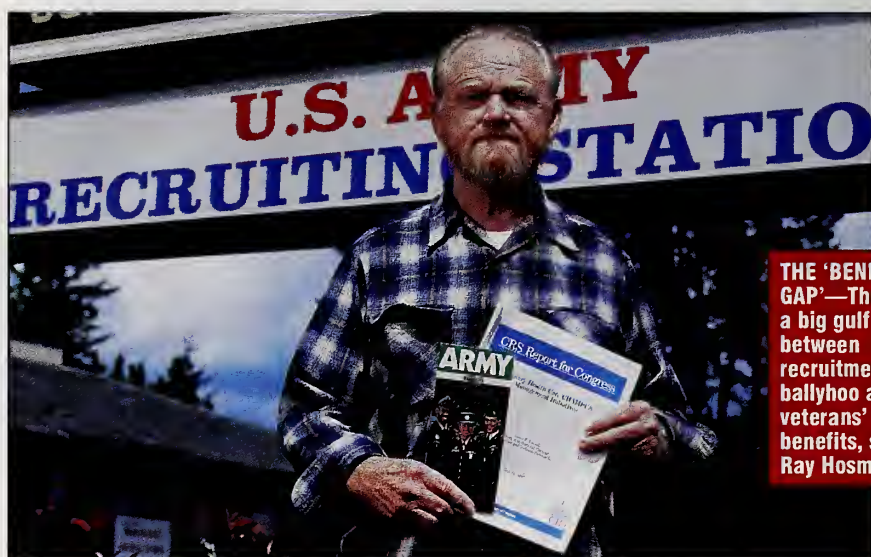
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# Veterans Call It THE BIG LIE



**THE 'BENEFIT GAP'—There's a big gulf between recruitment ballyhoo and veterans' benefits, says Ray Hosmer.**

*They were promised "free health care for life." But veterans have found that when money's involved, promises have a way of getting broken.*

**By C.R. Roberts**

**R**AY HOSMER believed in his country and he believed the promises of the military recruiters who offered him the opportunity to serve America through nearly 22 years of peace and war.

Today, Ray Hosmer no longer believes. Today, he stewes over a promise broken. He wishes to expose a lie that insults all retired military personnel—a lie still told to the current generation of military recruits.

"There can be no doubt in my mind

*Excerpted with permission by C.R. Roberts and The News Tribune, Tacoma, Wash.*

that we have a legal, moral and constitutional right to our benefits," he says.

That right, and those benefits have been denied.

So says Ray Hosmer, 61, a retired Air Force master sergeant living in Graham, Wash.

He enlisted in 1949. "I guess I was looking for a career, a future," he says. "Jobs weren't great at the time, I was 18, getting 50 cents an hour working in a gas station."

He signed up for the Army, but his test scores were such that he was eligible to enlist in the Air Force. He retired in 1971 after service throughout the world at bases in America, Japan, Korea and Vietnam—from Michigan, Massachusetts and McChord to Bien Hoa, Saigon and Na Trang.

He retired while serving as noncommissioned officer in charge of schedul-

ing and maintenance at an Air Force base in Missouri. He left there proficient in the inspection and repair of such aircraft as the C-54, C-124, C-46, C-45, C-47, B-25 and C-121.

He left to begin a civilian career and he has since discovered that the government he protected with his life has betrayed him.

"We were promised free medical care," he says. "The recruiting people, the re-enlistment people, promised it. I just want to be sure the damn government is going to stand up for their promises."

Not likely.

In 1992, Hosmer's wife was "disengaged" from treatment for an abdominal problem at Madigan Army Medical Center. This treatment, Hosmer says, was one of the benefits he'd been guaranteed. And although his wife is eligible for civilian care under a government-funded insurance program, Hosmer maintains that the promise assures the care be given without cost at a facility such as Madigan.

"Congress knows that we have been promised free medical for life," he says. "Money's getting short, and now they're trying to stick it to us. It just makes me feel that the government isn't a government of the people any more, but just a government of the government. They don't answer to nobody."

They don't answer, but they know just what they're doing to anybody who might be considering a career in the military.

In a 1991 report, the Congressional Research Service concludes, "...for many, the 'promise' of 'free' health care 'for life' was functionally true. This 'promise,' it is widely believed, was and continues to be a useful tool for recruiting and retention purposes."

The report continues, "Congress is faced with the reality that many military members, retirees and dependents believe that military health care is free and guaranteed for life."

With very good reason is Congress faced with such a reality.

Ray Hosmer visited a Spanaway recruiting office a couple of years ago. He left with a pamphlet called "Army Benefits."

With no fine print to distract from the smiling faces of the young men and women pictured therein, this useful tool

*Please turn to page 58*





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# 'St. George Is Expendable'

Through a combination of ignorance, negligence and lies, the U.S. government destroyed the lives of thousands of Americans with its secret atomic testing programs in the Southwest and Pacific.

By Ken Scharnberg

**T**HE LEGION meeting room is very quiet. As Scott Prisbrey speaks, he sifts through the contents of a small box, touching each item with reverence. The carton holds memories of his son, Chad.

"God never intended for a parent to outlive his child," he says. He will repeat the statement many times during the interview.

Chad Prisbrey was killed by an atomic bomb.

That's what Scott Prisbrey maintains, and there is a growing body of evidence to support him.

Prisbrey, Elizabeth Wright and Elmer Pickett are gathered in the meeting room of Post 90 in St. George, Utah. All have suffered unexplained

losses—Wright, her father; Prisbrey, his son; Pickett, his wife and 15 members of his family. They believe the U.S. government's reckless disregard for human life during a dozen years of above-ground atomic testing is responsible. Beginning in 1951, residents of St. George were unwittingly as much a part of the tests as the tanks, guns and equipment strewn about the Nevada test site. The town lies 100 miles east of the site and was often in the direct path of the dust clouds spewed into the sky by the blasts.

Indeed, researcher Dr. Joseph Lyon's study of cancers in southern Utah presented during federal hearings in 1979 revealed the cancer rate in areas such as St. George to be 143 percent higher than the state norm. For the incidence of childhood leukemia alone, southern Utah's cancer-death rate was 250 percent greater than the state average.

Moreover, Lyon's figures may be conservative. According to Dr. Billings Brown, a former scientist with the Defense Department, Lyon's research was based on comparisons between



**CAUSE AND EFFECT**—Elmer Pickett clutches a photo of his wife, who died of cancer. He is convinced that she is among hundreds locally whose deaths were linked to fallout.

*Ken Scharnberg, veterans affairs editor of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, visited St. George, Utah, in preparing this article.*





**DEATH VALLEY—** Liz Wright shows Josh and Brandy Kroubetz where she and her father used to witness bomb tests. The clouds of contaminated pink dust would settle over the little town of St. George and surrounding communities.

selected southern Utah counties and the rest of the state. Since other Utah communities also received heavy doses of radiation during the tests, Brown believes that if another location had been used as the control group—one not prone to periodic dustings of fallout—the statistics would be even more damning.

Declassified Atomic Energy Commission documents show that the only ideal window for wind direction was a very narrow corridor between St. George and the Arizona border; as little as 10 degrees of variance would send the clouds over populated areas of Arizona or Nevada. Or St. George.

"They wouldn't set off a bomb if the wind was blowing toward Las Vegas," Elmer Pickett says bitterly. A Utah American Legion District Commander, the St. George resident has seen far too many of his family, friends and neighbors die young. Most died from cancer. Pickett says the government considered Las Vegas politically sacred, "but the people in St. George were expendable."

They were not the only ones.

Officially, the atomic bomb has only

## Nothing Will Delay The Tests

**B**Y 1955, dozens of children in St. George and surrounding communities had died or were dying, primarily of leukemia. Residents of southern Utah were beginning to suspect fallout, and the AEC was worried—not necessarily about the health problems per se, but about the adverse impact of continuing the tests.

The following exchange is taken from a declassified March 1955 transcript of a meeting of AEC commissioners (identified by last names only). The discussion shows concern over the wind flow and the amount of radiation that might be deposited in the area—but what comes through above all else is a determination to forge ahead with the program.

The criteria mentioned in the transcript were the general stipulations governing when the AEC could "safely" detonate a nuclear weapon.

*Nichols: They have been trying to*

*wait for more favorable weather when there would be [less chance of fallout] on a community. The weather, as it looks today...is that they have generally a wind that is blowing to the east. If you applied the criteria as stated here, they could fire. But that could mean...that St. George might get one or two rems applied over the year.*

*Chmn. Strauss: I have forgotten the number of people in St. George.*

*Foster: 4,500.*

*Strauss: So you can't evacuate them.*

*Nichols: Under the criteria...you would not even plan to.*

*Dr. Bugher: We regarded southern Utah as a forbidden zone for future fallout in this series.... Actually from the health and safety [standpoint], it's a solemn attitude there.*

*Comm. Murray: I am all for sticking to the criteria and telling him to get on with the test. —K.S.*



## St. George Is Expendable

been used twice as a weapon against human beings. The first case was Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945. On Aug. 9, a second bomb detonated over Nagasaki. But history does not take into account the 250,000 GIs involved in the testing of this new and devastating weapon following World War II, or the tens of thousands of civilians living in communities like St. George, who were exposed to the radioactive detritus of nearly two decades of open-air atomic testing.

The original reasons for testing seemed legitimate enough. The awesome power of the bomb had caused a great deal of concern, especially for the Navy. What if such a weapon were detonated at sea against our warships? Had the atomic age rendered the Navy obsolete? Later, the military and atomic scientists would want to know more about the bomb's destructive potential on land and the effects it would have on ground forces.

Thus began an unprecedented series of experiments. In 1946, the federal government moved the entire popula-

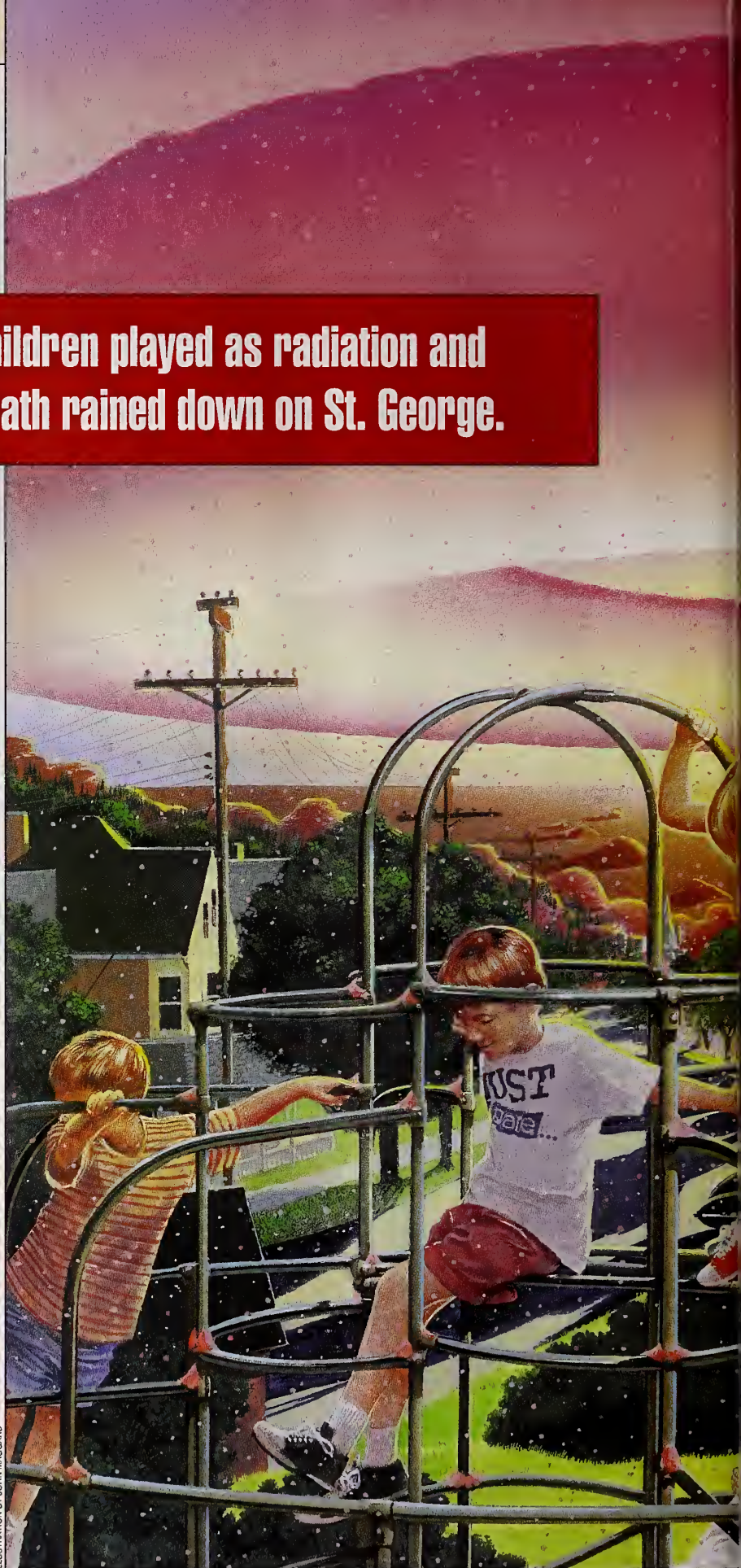
**Children played as radiation and death rained down on St. George.**

M. JUSTICE/MERCURY PICTURES

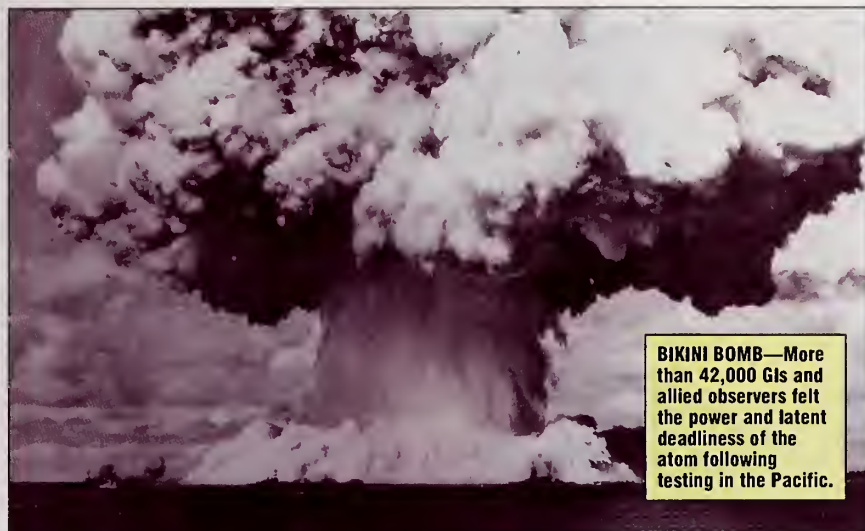


**THE PAIN OF A FATHER**—Scott Prisbrey mourns the death of his son, Chad—one of many children St. George had to bury after the testing started.

ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN MAGGARD







**BIKINI BOMB**—More than 42,000 GIs and allied observers felt the power and latent deadliness of the atom following testing in the Pacific.

tion of Bikini Atoll in Micronesia (167 natives) to another island so the military could perform atomic tests there. The remnants of the Japanese fleet and those U.S. warships slated for scrapping were repaired, fueled and even armed in an effort to make the tests as realistic as possible. The ships were then equipped with special instruments and lab animals and anchored in Bikini's lagoon. Lawmakers, scientists, observers from a number of countries including the Soviet Union, and some 42,000 servicemen participated.

On July 1, 1946, the first bomb, an air burst, was detonated. On July 25, a second and far more powerful bomb was set off deep beneath the water of the lagoon, drenching the islands, ships, animals and instruments with radioactive water and other "hot" materials. According to the book, *Bombs At Bikini*, 90 percent of the ships were badly contaminated. So were the waters of the lagoon and even the distillation systems of observer ships as far as 20 miles out from the blast site.

Yet the servicemen who removed the animals and scrubbed off the radioactive muck that coated the steel structures wore no protective equipment. In his series on atomic veterans, American Legion Fourth Estate winner Billy Cox reported eyewitness accounts of GIs sleeping on the contaminated steel decks.

Despite having little or no experience dealing with atomic debris—that, after all, was part of the purpose of the tests—officials assured participants they were completely safe. It was not until much later that many of these men learned they had been exposed to dangerous levels of radiation.

Any sentiment for halting the tests

was short-circuited by the global political climate of the times. In 1949, the Soviet Union surprised the West by detonating an atomic weapon of its own. As fear of the "red menace" spread, atomic testing was turned over to a new, ultra-secret agency called the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). According to Stewart A. Udall, former Arizona congressman and Secretary of the Interior under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, the AEC and the nascent CIA were given unprecedented peacetime authority to operate in secrecy.

The AEC continued the tests. In all, 23 bombs were detonated at Bikini, and an additional 43 at nearby Eniwetok. Today, nearly 50 years later, the islands remain uninhabitable.

**O**NE TEST in particular demonstrates the negligence that marked the testing program. On March 1, 1954, a 15-megaton hydrogen bomb, code name *Bravo*, was detonated on the Bikini island of Nam. Some 750 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, the blast vaporized much of Nam and two smaller islands. Fallout rained across 7,000 square miles of the Pacific, showering deadly ash not only on Bikini, but on the 236 residents of the Rongelap and Utirik atolls, 75 and 300 miles to the east respectively.

At the time, officials blamed an "unexpected" wind shift, but test documents declassified in 1979 show that the wind shift was predicted—and ignored. This would be the hallmark, the code that colored all AEC decisions, and recorded in declassified document after document:

Nothing must be allowed to stop or delay the tests.



**TEST RESULTS—**  
GIs like Gene Toronto were part of a series of atomic experiments at Camp Mercury, Nev. Today, he suffers from tumors and bone and skin problems.

**We weren't asked. We were drafted. We were told where to go and had no choice in the matter.**

**—Gene Toronto**

## St. George Is Expendable

If it ever occurred to AEC officials that nuclear testing—which had proved so unpredictable in remote stretches of the Pacific—might be an unqualified disaster on the U.S. mainland, you could not tell from their 1951 decision to begin atomic testing stateside. Indeed, the AEC took pains in brochures and TV to repeatedly assure the local citizenry that “there is no danger.”

Over the course of 12 years, the AEC detonated 126 atomic bombs above the Nevada Test Site—this, as declassified transcripts would show, in spite of repeated warnings from some of AEC's own top scientists, including Drs. Duncan Holaday, Robert C. Pendleton and Joseph Lyon. It was not until 1978-79 that congressional hearings finally shattered the veil of secrecy. The hearings were launched on the heels of the Three-Mile-Island nuclear plant accident. (It is possible that the plight of downwinders and veterans might never have come to light were it not for Three-Mile-Island.)

“It's easier to sweep it under the rug,” says Stewart Udall, who, since leaving office, has spearheaded attempts to get compensation for radiation victims, with mixed success. Udall was in charge of the field studies for gathering evidence for the 1979 joint House and Senate hearings cochaired

by Rep. Bob Eckhardt of Texas and Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts.

Udall's investigations led him, among other things, to dairy cows.

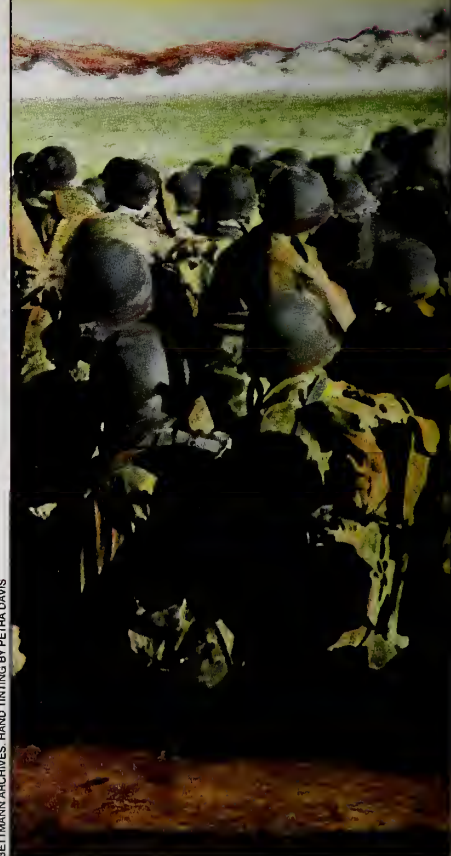
Southern Utah had an active dairy industry in the '50s. Milk cows grazed the range and ate hay harvested in the area. One contaminant of the atomic blasts was Iodine-131, a known carcinogen. When ingested by cows it forms heavy concentrations in milk.

According to radiation experts, cancer risks—especially for leukemia and thyroid cancer—are four times higher in children exposed to radiation than in adults. For leukemia, the latency period is three to four years. In the St. George cemetery, two years leap out from the headstones of children. The first year is 1926, when a diphtheria epidemic swept the small town, claiming many young lives.

The second year is 1955, the fourth year following the first of the Nevada atomic tests.

“It was the milk,” says Udall. “What could be more innocent than drinking milk?”

Scott Prisbrey's son, Chad, was five when the atomic tests began. At 18, he enlisted in the Army and was lucky to spend his tour in Germany instead of Vietnam. When he returned, he joined the St. George police department. “He complained that he seemed tired, that something wasn't right,” his father remembers. “It got worse and we finally took him to Salt Lake City. He had multiple myeloma, a type of cancer.” Chad Prisbrey, who felt it



BETTMANN ARCHIVES. HAND TINTING BY PETRA DAVIS





**ATOMIC VETERANS**—The government lied to GIs who participated in atomic tests, repeatedly saying there was no danger. Compensation for radiation-related ailments has been slow in coming.

was his duty to serve his country, was 28 when he died.

Says the elder Prisbrey, "When the tests were going on, the AEC produced a movie called '*A is for Atom, B is for Bomb*. We found out later that '*C*' is for cancer and '*D*' is for death."

It wasn't long before adults began to die, too. Liz Wright's father was one, succumbing to leukemia. "Dad was president of the local college and used to take groups of kids out before sunrise to watch the blasts light up the western horizon," she says. "He said we were seeing history being made. He was so proud of our country."

According to Udall, this patriotism was a major reason it took so long before downwinders finally began asking questions. No one wanted to believe a government agency would intentionally put U.S. citizens at risk. "These small-town folks, especially Mormons, were conditioned to believe the government," says Udall. "I know. I was one of them."

Besides, the AEC continued reassuring everyone, "There is no danger"—a strategy Udall now refers to as "the Big Lie."

St. George's trust in government managed to keep a lid on the situation even when testing mishaps raised eyebrows among the locals. "After one particularly dirty test," says Pickett, "the AEC sent out a warning to keep all children indoors because the blast had created a dangerous dust cloud. They warned everybody except us. We got word about 3 o'clock that afternoon."

The test Pickett describes was a 32-kiloton bomb code-named *Harry*. The huge plume hovered over St. George, mingling with rain clouds. The AEC had set 3.9 "rads," a term for measuring exposure, as the safe level for humans. In *The Myths of August*, Stewart Udall wrote that, had it actually rained that day, "one fallout expert later calculated it could have washed out 400-plus rads of radiation and 'killed half or all of the people in town.'" (Communities in the path of the radiation were not always so lucky. After *Shot Simon*, a radioactive cloud was carried into the upper atmosphere. Twelve hours later, a spring rain over Troy, N.Y., dropped 2 rads on the northeastern city.)

As it was, *Harry* and the subsequent *Shot Annie* wreaked havoc. Residents experienced burns and signs of



## St. George Is Expendable

radiation sickness. The AEC attributed these problems to hysteria, gastrointestinal disturbances, hypothyroidism and even too much sun.

Other indications were harder to dispel. To assuage local concern, the AEC had assigned monitors to patrol the area, distribute and collect film badges, and do some public relations work. (For instance, monitors were instructed to never use the word "hot" when describing a radioactive reading or incident.) As the monitors stationed around the region gathered information from the badges and Geiger counters, it became evident that the tests were producing some extremely "hot" pockets. Measurements taken in St. George ran as high as 14.6 rads, almost four times the established safety ceiling.

In March 1953, the AEC embarked upon what would go down as the dirtiest series of atomic blasts ever undertaken, even by AEC standards. Upshot-Knothole (UK), conducted at the Nevada Test Site, averaged one atomic detonation a week for three months. At one point the AEC issued a bulletin to area residents explaining that UK shots, detonated from a 300-foot tower, had sucked up more dust than anticipated. Future shots, the AEC assured residents, would be detonated from towers at least 600 feet high.

The agency went on to apologize for any "inconvenience."

## SINS OF OMISSION

**I**N HIS BOOK, *The Myths of August*, Stewart Udall interviewed AEC radiation monitor Frank Butrico, stationed at St. George when the so-called "Dirty Harry" shot was detonated. Butrico said that when the AEC realized it had made a terrible miscalculation and a radioactive cloud was raining fallout on the community, an improvised warning to residents was made from a radio station 60 miles away in Cedar City, but it reached only those tuned in to the station.

Udall writes, "Common decency dictated that the bomb testers had a duty to inform the citizens of St. George about steps they could take to decontaminate themselves. But

When the cover-up showed signs of faltering, the AEC would resort to less polite tactics. Dr. John Willard Sr., an AEC consultant, was one of the scientists who worked on the Manhattan Project, where he lost his stomach, gall bladder, kidney and one eye in a serious radiation accident. On July 16, 1957, he was at home in Rapid City, S.D., when a uranium prospector in Belle Fourche, a small community to the north, called him and said his Geiger counter was registering very high readings. Willard investigated and discovered that the western region of South Dakota was catching heavy amounts of fallout from *Shot Diablo*, set off in Nevada earlier that morning. Horrified, Willard notified the state governor and activated Civil Defense workers. Milk was dumped and burned at dairies. Farmers were warned that their hay was contaminated.

AEC officials reacted instantly, dispatching FBI agents to apprehend Willard and even threatening him with imprisonment in Leavenworth. In an interview with photojournalist Carole Gallagher for her book, *American Ground Zero: The Secret Nuclear War*, Willard said, "They had me under

Butrico's superiors, intoxicated by bloated conceptions of 'national security' that imbued them with pitiless arrogance, never considered taking such action.

"When the dirty cloud had disappeared and irradiated dusts had settled, Butrico was instructed to take a shower and throw away the clothes he was wearing. No such warning was ever given to the citizens of St. George."

Indeed, clothes hung on the line, children played in the sand, housewives worked in their gardens and farmers went to their fields while fallout rained down. Through it all, the AEC steadfastly maintained there was no danger.

—K.S.

house arrest. They told me what a traitor I was. Even the head of the Atomic Energy Commission got on the phone."

And so it went throughout much of the testing period. The area residents were encouraged to believe the government and discouraged from pursuing any of their fears. Through it all, the AEC showed a consistent pattern of neglect in dealing with the radiation threat. One of the illustrations in the little yellow information booklet circulated by the AEC was a sketch of a TV set with a message on its screen: ATOMIC

TEST TOMORROW. The accompanying text detailed how residents would be warned before any detonations. Unfortunately, television did not come to isolated St. George until the 1960s. And though radio warnings were also issued, most people were at work when these broadcasts took place. Too often, the first inkling of a test was when, as Liz Wright described, "The windows would rattle or even break, and the dust cloud would follow a while later."

"They gave us no warning," says Elmer Pickett. "Pink dust was everywhere."

Pickett's wife, who he describes as "an enthusiastic gardener who spent more time outdoors than inside," contracted Hodgkin's disease in 1959. In 1960, leukemia appeared; she died that December.

Nor were there any cancer specialists in St. George at that time. To find treatment, Pickett and dozens of other area residents had to make the 300-mile trek to Salt Lake City over two-lane roads with stricken loved ones. (Eventually, it was Dr. Lyon, a Salt Lake cancer specialist, who raised the alarm that all was not well in St. George.)

The journeys became so common that Pickett says cancer specialists in Salt Lake would greet new patients with, "What part of southern Utah are you from?"

FROM THE inception of the Nevada Test Site program, GIs were being drafted into the nuclear tests to serve as

**It was the milk. What could be more innocent than drinking milk?**  
—Stewart Udall, former Arizona congressman



observers and participants—or, as some would later say, guinea pigs.

The Defense Department eventually assumed all responsibility for the monitoring and safety of GIs involved in the atomic tests. As it turned out, Defense Department officials were, if possible, even more reckless than the AEC.

One of the units sent to Camp Mercury, Nev., in March 1952 was the Army's 216th Chemical Service Corps. Composed of nearly 200 men, 134 from Minnesota, the unit participated with about 5,000 other military personnel from all branches of the service during Operation Tumbler-Snapper.

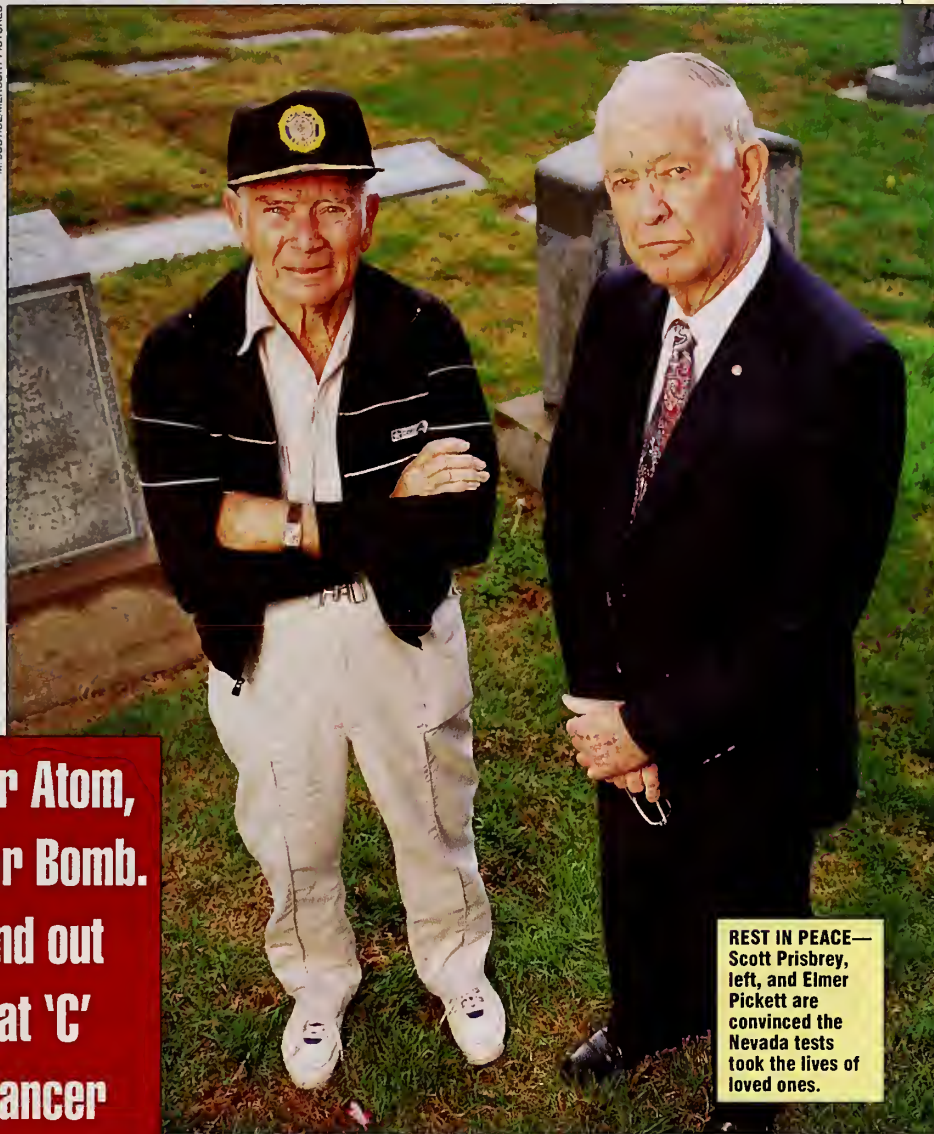
Minnesota Legionnaire Gene Toronto, president of "The Forgotten 216th," says, "We weren't asked. We were drafted. We were told where to go and had no choice in the matter. We are a small group and we have our problems." Toronto has had more than a dozen noncancerous tumors removed, and suffers from bone problems, skin rashes and nervous tics. He also has two adult children, born after he returned from Nevada, who suffer from serious neurological maladies.

One of the problems with the government's insufficient attempts to protect GIs was the use of film badges in gauging exposure to radiation. "The badges measure only surface radiation," says Toronto. "They tell nothing of what you might ingest." Toronto was an on-site monitor whose job was to keep track of radiation at and around Ground Zero. He tells of leaving the command

post after one test and finding himself engulfed in a series of what midwesterners call dust devils—sort of mini-tornadoes. "The wind would blast us in the face and we would breath this stuff, and this was never recorded on film badges or dosimeters," he says.

Medical science now knows that inhalation and ingestion pose the greatest long-lasting risk in radiation exposure. Even in the 1950s there was clear evidence that taking radioactive substances into the body, even at low levels, was extremely hazardous, especially over extended periods of time.

M. JUSTICE MERCURY PICTURES



**'A' is for Atom,  
'B' is for Bomb.  
We found out  
later that 'C'  
is for Cancer  
and 'D' is for  
Death.**

**—Scott Prisbrey**

**REST IN PEACE—**  
Scott Prisbrey,  
left, and Elmer  
Pickett are  
convinced the  
Nevada tests  
took the lives of  
loved ones.

Toronto points out that basing exposure on film-badge readings is also a reason why radiation victims have a difficult time proving their case to VA or other federal

agencies. All nonpresumptive radiation claims to veterans are granted based on surface readings alone.

Even here, the information is incomplete. According to a report compiled and released by the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA), of some 5,064 participating personnel in Operation Tumbler-Snapper, DNA was able to identify only 1,803 by their name and film. Of that number, DNA determined that 58 individuals had received gamma radiation exposures exceeding 3.0 Roentgens. Ten had absorbed more than 5.0 Roentgens, far beyond the established

safety limit.

Legionnaire Albert "Smoky" Parrish, also of the 216th, knows of 12 men in his unit alone whose dosage exceeded the 5.0 level. Parrish says that the 216th served at the test site for 13 weeks. During that time, eight bombs were detonated. The first of these, *Shot Able*, set off at Frenchman's Lake, was a scant six miles from Camp Mercury where the 216th was billeted.

The quarters were ramshackle affairs with plywood roofs, screened windows with no glass, and dirt or wood floors. Toronto was astounded. "I can't imagine what they were thinking," he says. "They set that bomb off six miles away from us. Dust was all over everything. If you stepped barefooted on the floor, the bottom of your foot came up black."

Parrish says the quarters were not checked for radioactivity and because

*Please turn to page 60*



# Shockwaves

Our most celebrated futurist expounds on "demassification," laptop computers for the poor, intelligence versus courage, his buddy Newt, the information explosion still to come, and other aspects of America's movement forward.

**B**EFORE OUR eyes, America is deep into an all-embracing transformation. Smokestack, industrial America is fast giving way to an information-based, high-tech society—a revolution that will change not only how we work and play, but how we vote. The stuff of yesteryear's science fiction has become today's scientific fact.

That's the crux of what Alvin Toffler, acclaimed futurist and best-selling author of *Future Shock* and *The Third Wave*, tells us about America's tomorrows.

However, don't pigeon-hole Toffler as an ivory-tower thinker who hasn't a clue about the real world. Toffler is, by all accounts, House Speaker Newt Gingrich's favorite futurist—a fact manifested by Gingrich's authorship of the forward to Toffler's latest book, *Creating A New Civilization*. Indeed, Gingrich prominently placed the book on his short "reading list" for members of Congress.

Gingrich and Toffler don't agree on everything—they probably disagree as often as not, the author admits—but when Toffler talks, Gingrich listens. So should we.

**AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE:** As a society, why do we seem to be filled with so much anxiety about the future nowadays?

**ALVIN TOFFLER:** There are good reasons to feel nervous. In our books, we look at history in terms of waves. In the First Wave, society was farming-based. In the Second Wave, society became industrialized. Now America is being transformed by the Third Wave, and the factories of the Second Wave will be replaced by computers as the country emerges as an information-based, high-tech society.

Fundamentally, Second Wave society is about "mass"—mass production, mass media, mass entertainment. The Third Wave will be "demassified," meaning the Second Wave's uniformity will be broken up into higher degrees of diversity and individuality. So the transition from a Second Wave to a Third Wave society is upsetting us at every level.

**Q.** People have been predicting these sorts of revolu-

tions for years—just as people have been predicting the end of the world. Wouldn't the average American be skeptical about the revolution you describe?

**A.** Yes, and there are pundits who tell us, "Things have always changed. Nothing new is happening." But what is different is that never in history has the change been as accelerated as the Third Wave is.

Whereas it took 200 to 300 years for the Second Wave's Industrial Revolution to spread, it's taking just a few decades for the Third Wave to move across the planet and transform our lives.

**Q.** What impact does this have on the average American?

**A.** The transition reaches deep into how we all live—ultimately it challenges all our institutions, including our political institutions. But as a starting point, we are worried about our jobs. Are we going to lose them because we have fallen behind the changing skill requirements?

We need to be selling smart labor and smart goods and services to compete. Education and information are the keys to succeeding in the Third Wave. Pockets of Third Wave development already are flourishing in unlikely places such as India, which in fact has fast-growing high-tech industries. The Third Wave cannot be monopolized by the United States or anyone else.

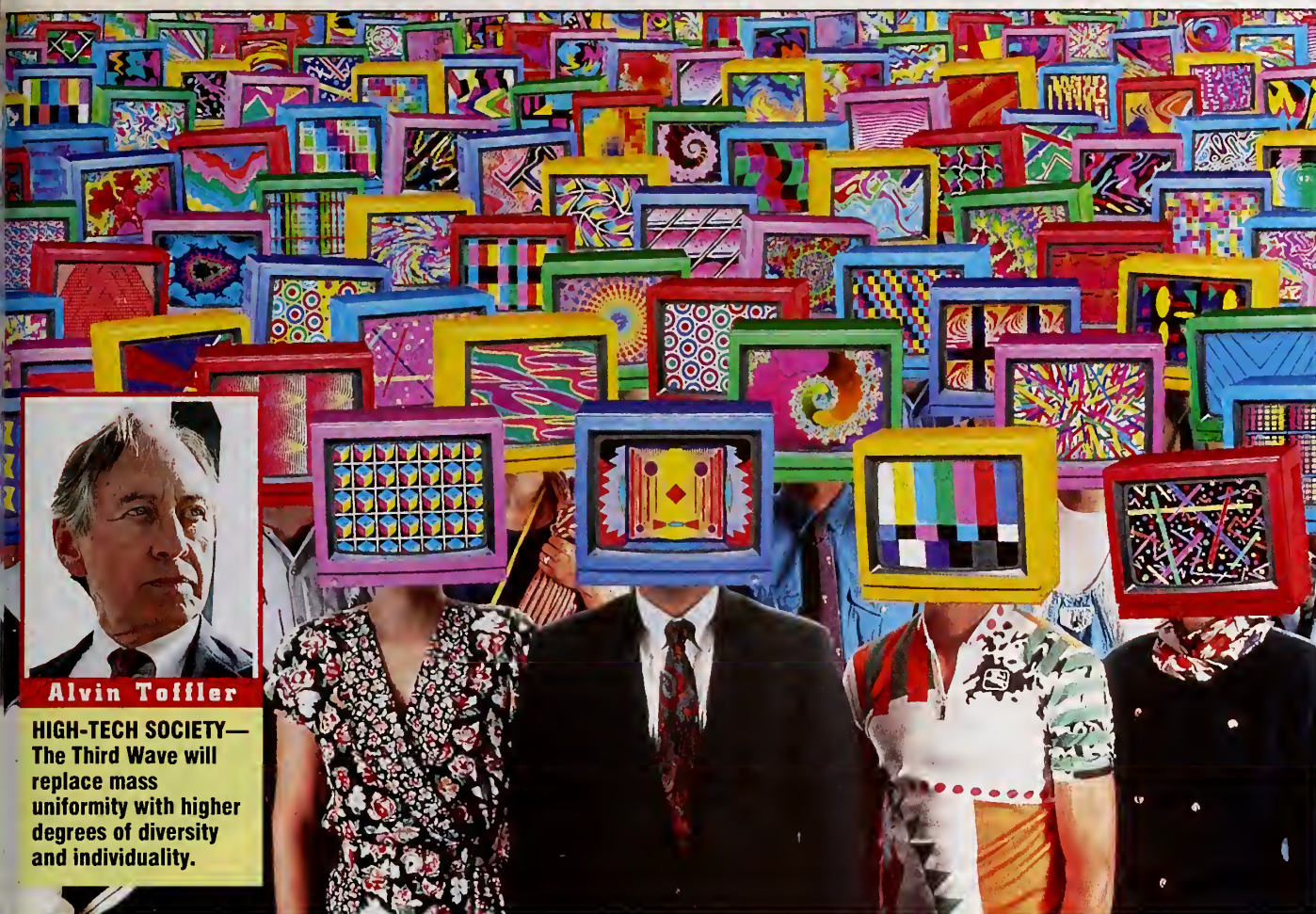
**Q.** What happens to those in our society who don't consider themselves as smart?

**A.** The question is, what do we mean by smart? Some seem to be saying that unless you have a high IQ there's no need for you. That's ridiculous. The idea that society will need only rocket scientists is wrong. Our society needs people who are courageous, who are creative, who know how to care for others.

Besides, right now many of our blue-collar jobs are being transformed into "smart," white-collar work, with factory employees routinely using computers at work to process information.

**Q.** Speaking of processing information, do you support





THE IMAGE BANK, INSET: A. BASILE

**Alvin Toffler**

**HIGH-TECH SOCIETY—**  
The Third Wave will replace mass uniformity with higher degrees of diversity and individuality.

Speaker Gingrich's off-the-cuff remark—later retracted—that maybe we ought to be giving laptop computers to the poor?

**A.** I know Newt believes it is critical to give everybody access to the tools needed to succeed in the Third Wave economy. Do you remember how he made fun of a provision in last year's crime bill to have midnight basketball in the ghettos?

That night I had dinner with him and the question came up, what about computers for kids in the ghetto? Newt said, "If the idea was to provide midnight computers, I'd have been for it because we would be teaching useful skills that these kids could benefit from."

**Q.** Your ideas have startling political implications. For example, you've said that as we move deeper into the Third Wave, terms like "left wing" and "right wing" will no longer have relevance.

**A.** We are seeing the rise of a whole generation—younger and middle-aged Americans—who don't fit the traditional political templates. They may be "liberal" on social issues but "conservative" on economic issues. I think we should drop that whole vocabulary.

We also have to get off the nostalgia too often embraced by both political parties. We won't go back to River Rouge [a historic Ford assembly plant] or to Ozzie and Harriet and the idealized house of the '50s with the white picket fence.

**Q.** How does the Third Wave prevent us from return-

*Please turn to page 64*

## HIGHLIGHTS

### *Alvin Toffler On...*

**Changing America:** "America is being transformed by the Third Wave. The factories of the Second Wave are being replaced by computers, as the country emerges as an information-based, high-tech society."

**Job retraining:** "Give the money to the unemployed and let them decide how they want to be trained. That's how the GI Bill worked after World War II. You could use the money to go to Princeton or to refrigeration school."

**Newt Gingrich:** "Remember how he made fun of a provision in last year's crime bill to have midnight basketball in the ghettos? Newt said, 'If the idea was to provide midnight computers, I'd have been for it because we would be teaching useful skills that these kids could benefit from.'"

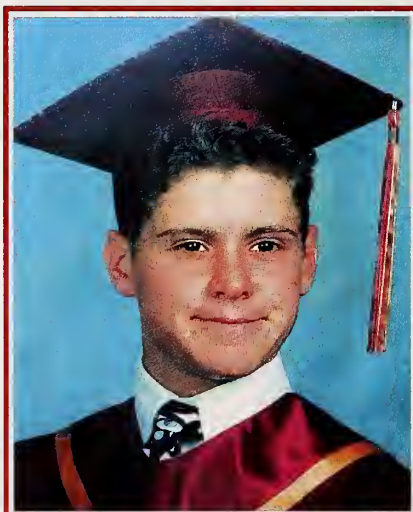


# 911

## A SYSTEM CALLING FOR HELP

By Jay Stuller

**O**NE NIGHT last November, a citizen of Philadelphia's Fox Chase neighborhood called 911 to report that a crowd of bat-wielding teenagers had smashed a window of a parked car. When the rampaging punks then targeted windows at an auto body shop, another citizen phoned. Though Philadelphia's 911 center took at least 16 separate calls, dispatchers didn't send a single squad car to investigate.



**DEADLY DELAY**—After a gang beat 16-year-old Eddie Polec on Philadelphia streets, a 911 operator sent an ambulance to the wrong address. Police and medics found Polec 40 minutes later, but too late to save his life.

With no police in sight, the raging teens descended upon Eddie Polec, a 16-year-old in the wrong place at the wrong time. A friend of Polec's ran to a pay phone and begged a 911 operator to send an ambulance. The operator did indeed send one—to an address three blocks away. The cops and medics finally arrived more than 40 minutes after the trouble started and far too late to save Polec, who died 12 hours later.

A random and rare tragedy? Not quite. In January, despite accurate reports from callers, a Los Angeles 911 dispatcher sent a fire crew to the wrong address—Ninth Street instead of Ninth Avenue. By the time the firefighters arrived, the blaze had claimed a mother and three of her children.

These and other incidents have generated a flurry of national media attention. To the public, the failures were especially outrageous and stunning. After all, in *Rescue 911* and similar TV fare, such calls are handled flawlessly, promptly and encouragingly.

But the real 911 is nowhere near as reliable. And hampered by a combination of human, technical and financial problems, the performance of America's 911 system may grow worse before it improves.

David Bubb, a staff instructor with the Florida-based Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), estimates there are more than 280,000 emergency calls made daily in the United States. "Even if 99.9 percent

**HELP**—An estimated 280,000 emergency calls are made daily in the U.S. Even if 99.9 percent are handled correctly, 280 could be mishandled.

of these are handled perfectly, that still leaves the possibility that 280 of them could be mishandled," says Bubb.

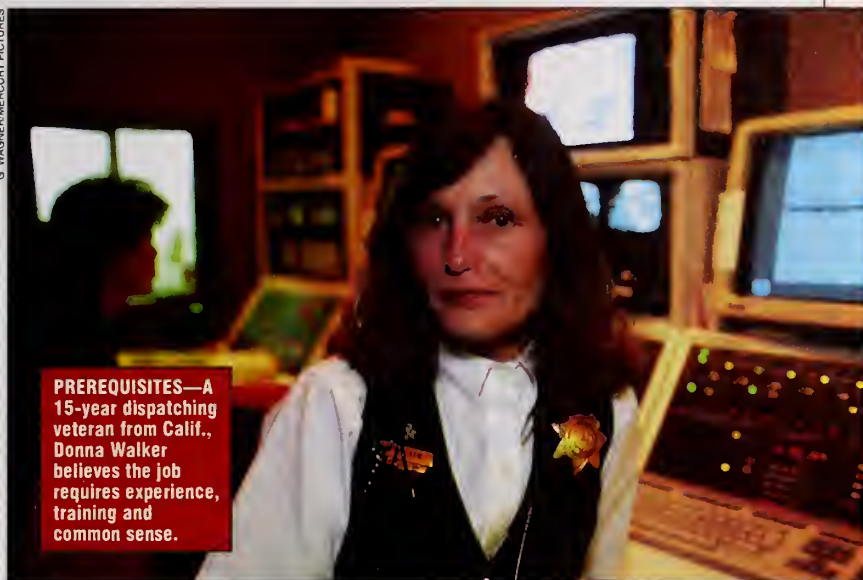
**I**RONICALLY, the greatest threat to such high-level performance may be the callers themselves. Americans use 911 far too often for nonemergencies. "It may be complaints about barking dogs, questions about the tempera-







G. WAGNER/MERCURY PICTURES



**PREREQUISITES**—A 15-year dispatching veteran from Calif., Donna Walker believes the job requires experience, training and common sense.

from drive-by shootings to stubbed toes.

A San Francisco survey showed that only 4 to 6 percent of the calls were bona fide life-and-death situations. "From 42 to 44 percent were emergencies in only the broadest sense of the word," says retired Navy Rear Adm. John W. Bitoff, director of the San Francisco Office of Emergency Services. "Half were junk calls, such as 'What time is the jail open for visiting hours?'"

Some of the junk calls can be comical, as every veteran dispatcher can attest. In Washington, D.C., a man called to find out the correct temperature for cooking a roast. In Houston, a woman phoned right after her husband had told her he wanted a divorce. In Los Angeles, a man called to report that his left testicle was bigger than his right.

"I probably should have guessed what my first call would be on the morning of Sunday, Jan. 28," says Donna Walker, a 15-year dispatcher in

Marin County, Calif. "The guy wanted to know what time the Super Bowl started."

While laughable at quiet moments, these bogus calls, including prank hang-ups, can be serious when dispatchers are juggling with several life-and-death matters. Today's flood of calls contrasts sharply with 911's early days, when getting people to call at all

was the problem. The three-digit number—which is easy to remember and quick to dial—was introduced in America in 1968.

Now, 911 systems cover more than 80 percent of the population. In most larger cities, dispatchers sitting before computer screens see not only the number from which you're calling—if it's from a conventional wired telephone—but also your address. Thanks to newspaper reports and TV shows such as *Cops* and *Rescue 911*, Americans are quite familiar with tales of toddlers who saved Grandma simply because they knew to dial those three magic numbers when she had a heart attack. For such reasons, citizens have come to expect that emergency help will arrive in five minutes or less.

**A**LAS, these high expectations have become part and parcel of the system's dilemma. The result? An "overselling" of 911, says Bitoff. "Just look at a major city phone book. On the inside of the front cover is '911' in huge numbers. You see '911' painted on the side of garbage trucks. But just try to find the number for the Coast Guard, the Highway Patrol or the FBI in the directory's small print."

What makes it worse, according to APCO's Bubb, is that many of our emergency-response systems are plagued by spotty training and inadequate staffing levels. The Philadelphia

*Jay Stuller, a San Francisco-based freelance writer and frequent contributor to this magazine, wrote "Global Pirates" in the April issue.*

ture, or even to ask the time of day," says Bubb. "When dispatchers are trying to deal with these calls and true life-threatening situations, the sheer volume can be overwhelming."

In Los Angeles, where roughly 2.5 million 911 calls are made annually, citizens occasionally reach a recorded message as dispatchers sort through an avalanche of calls that run the gamut





STEWART/STOCK MARKET

**MEDICAL  
EMERGENCY—**  
Tell the dispatcher  
if the victim is  
unconscious or  
bleeding, the  
patient's age and  
other vital  
information.

# 911

dispatcher who handled the Eddie Polec murder admitted she had received only two weeks of training and hadn't gone through the simulated emergencies required in the six states that have mandated dispatcher instruction and certification.

"It astounds me that when I go down to get a haircut, my barber has to be licensed, but in many parts of the country, towns and cities can grab people off the street, give them a couple weeks of rudimentary training and turn them loose to handle calls where lives are at stake," says Bill Stanton, executive director of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), an Ohio-based organization pushing for higher standards in 911 training as well as better communications equipment.

There's no way to determine accurately how many crimes could have been stopped, or heart-attack deaths prevented, were it not for a one- or two-minute dispatch delay. When a crazed gunman killed seven people in a San Francisco high-rise in July 1993, the incident created profound confusion among 911 dispatchers who received conflicting calls about the location of the shooter and his victims. Afterwards, Mayor Frank Jordan asked Bitoff, director of emergency services, to prepare a report on the city's 911 system. Bitoff said the study revealed San Francisco had some training problems and

the system was undermanned by 35 to 40 dispatchers. We're now at 100 percent," says Bitoff, who is helping to develop a new \$60 million dispatch center for the city. "But it's obvious to me that it's also important to get the right kind of people into this profession. Because of the stress levels, candidates should be put through psychological tests."

For emergency operators, Bitoff adds, listening skills are just as important: "They have to have a knack for eliciting information from people who

may be in a panic; to get descriptions about what's going on, where it's happening and what the callers may implicitly mean."

Further complicating things is that, unlike the military, civilian agencies have been slow to adapt to new communications technology. Today's new wireless and cellular phones in particular have added a major kink to the 911 system. "With basic wired phones, even if the dispatchers don't have the computer that shows an address, you could trace the call of someone who, for example, had dialed for help but couldn't speak, says Stanton. "But cellular phones don't reveal a number or a location." At least 22 million wireless phone owners mistakenly believe the phones guarantee them fast emergency help, if needed.

Stanton is worried about the number of people who like the wireless phones so much, they have taken out their regular wired phone at home. If you call and report a fire on your home cellular and then run for your life, dispatchers won't be able to find your house, he says.

**D**ESPITE THEIR diverse problems, there's no question that America's 911 systems have saved countless lives. In less than 30 years, the very concept of 911 has become an integral

*Please turn to page 66*

## Do's and Don'ts of 911 Calls

**R**EMAINING calm when calling a 911 operator is critical. Officials say you should always state the problem first, give the dispatcher your name and the location of the incident.

- In a medical emergency, tell the dispatcher whether the victim is unconscious, bleeding profusely or breathing irregularly. The dispatcher may instruct you on first aid.
- For a fire, be sure to give the exact location. Let the operator know if anyone is still inside and if there's a potential explosive hazard—be it from natural gas, cans of paint or a propane tank. Then get to safety.
- If you see a serious crime in progress, remember the suspect's appearance, clothing and, if the suspect is fleeing by car, the make, model, color and plate number.

Also do *not* call 911:

- to "test the system." Dispatchers and police officers may lose valuable time trying to trace the call.
- if the power goes out or the weather is bad. Call the local utility company and listen to the radio for storm warnings.
- for nonemergency matters such as cats trapped in trees, loud neighbors and other annoyances. Call the police department's regular number. If the garbage hasn't been collected, call the sanitation department.
- to see how much you owe in parking fines or whether some buddy has been released from jail.

Remember: The time you waste on a nonemergency call may delay help for a true victim.

And wasted minutes can be deadly minutes.  
—J.S.



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# MINNESOTA'S DANIEL A. LUDWIG

## Elected National Commander

**H**ELPING PEOPLE is an important part of my life, and something that my parents taught me to value," says National Commander Daniel A. Ludwig, 49, of Post 54, Red Wing, Minn. "Through The American Legion, I have been able to live up to their example, and that makes me very proud."

Ludwig, a Vietnam-era Navy veteran, says that being an active Legionnaire for 20 years has given him an opportunity to apply the lessons he learned from his hometown Legion Post as well.

"I grew up seeing the local Legion Post, Post 538, Avon, Minn., do good things for people, and I was influenced by what I saw," he says. "I learned about patriotism at an early age from The American Legion. It's a lesson that has shaped my life."

In fact, it was Ludwig's extraordinary service to the Legion that earned him the top leadership post in the nation's largest veterans' organization.

"My experiences have taught me about real service, not lip service," Ludwig explains. "The American Legion doesn't just talk about making communities better places to live."

"It goes about doing the things that actually make this happen. The Legion is *still serving America*."

"With programs such as American Legion Boys State, American Legion Baseball, assistance for needy veterans and job hunting help for GIs leaving the military, the Legion offers so much to its members and to the military personnel who will soon become members," he adds.

Ludwig has firsthand knowledge about improving communities through Legion activities.

As president of the Minnesota American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary Brain Science Foundation, Ludwig helped raise \$1.1 million between 1987 and 1989 to endow a professorship at the University of Minnesota Medical School and the Minneapolis VA Medical Center.

"Research conducted because of this Legion-family program will help people suffering from brain and spinal cord injuries and diseases," he says.

**Leadership.** Since becoming a Legionnaire in 1975, Ludwig has worked his way through the ranks of the Post, District, Department and National levels with leadership

skills exemplified by his success with the brain science research campaign.

National Commander Ludwig earned high marks for serving The American Legion on the national level as Chairman of the National Foreign Relations Commission (1992-1993). He also served on the Distinguished Guests Committee, the Naval Affairs Committee, the Policy Coordination and Action Group and as an ex-officio member of the Special Committee on POW/MIAs.

At the District level, Ludwig was an all-time-high-membership Commander (1984-1985), Membership Director (1983-1984), Vice Commander (1982-1983), and Chaplain (1979-1980). He also received the Third District Commander's Award in 1990.

His leadership positions with the Minnesota Department include: all-time-high-membership Commander (1991-1992); Chaplain (1981-1982); and Vice Chairman of the Employment Committee (1979-1981).

Of course, Ludwig's rise to National Commander began as all Legion careers do: at the Post level. He served as an all-time-high-membership Commander of Post 54, Red Wing, Minn. (1978-1979).

**Military.** Before Ludwig lent his strong voice for community service to The American Legion, he devoted eight years of his life to the U.S. Navy's silent service. During the Vietnam War (June 10, 1964 to June 9, 1972), he served aboard the nuclear submarines *USS James Madison* and *USS Alexander Hamilton*. For his service, Ludwig received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation and the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia.

**Career.** For the past 21 years, Ludwig has worked as a radiation-protection specialist for the Northern States Power Company's Prairie Island

Nuclear Power Plant in Red Wing, Minn. His job is to help make sure energy is being generated safely.

**Family.** Ludwig is married to the former Mary Auer, and they are the parents of two children: Ann, 17, and John, 15. Mrs. Ludwig and Ann are members of the American Legion Auxiliary and John is a member of the Sons of The American Legion.

In the following interview, National Commander Ludwig discusses important issues crucial to The American

"I want the  
Legion Post to  
be the center  
of every  
community. And  
I want to make  
sure America is  
still taking care  
of its veterans."





MINNESOTA'S  
**DANIEL A. LUDWIG**  
 Elected National Commander

Legion and all Legionnaires.

## AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE:

What can The American Legion do to improve the lives of veterans, GIs and their families?

**LUDWIG:** Leadership from the Legion Post is needed in towns and cities across the country, as military families buy homes and look for ways to help raise their children.

We need to be there for these families to help them become part of our communities, just as we are there for older veterans who need transportation to VA hospitals and assistance in obtaining VA benefits.

We are a service organization that needs to keep pace with the needs of our changing membership, which includes more women veterans, young veterans and active-duty GIs with families.

This means Posts have to play an active role in the lives of all their members.

### Q. How can Posts do this?

**A.** For Posts that are near military bases, there are a lot of opportunities to recruit active-duty members and to help GIs leaving the service. Job contacts, advice about housing and schools, and family support services such as day care are very important to these men and women as they return to civilian life.

Welcome these troops into your Post. Don't wait for them to find you; go out and bring them in. Host a dinner, dance or a cookout and invite GIs from the local military bases.

Posts also should be alert to the needs of active-duty GIs and their families and be ready to seek Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) for them when financial problems occur. TFA is there for all veterans' families when mounting bills threaten their housing or abil-



**FAMILY**—National Commander Ludwig, his wife Mary, their daughter Ann and son John.

ity to buy food or pay for utilities. In addition to helping veterans and their families, TFA can also help build membership.

### Q. How can TFA help Posts recruit Legion members?

**A.** Everyone needs help at some time. And one way we repay that help is by helping others.

We need to encourage those who have received TFA help to join the Legion and become part of the team that is always ready to help veterans and the communities they live in.

Our Posts must be a conduit for veterans who want to help their community, for veterans who want to help veterans and for veterans who want to help themselves. American Legion Posts must become sanctuaries for active-duty men and women who need a place to call home. Wherever they go, the Legion welcome mat should be out.

### Q. What are the Legion's responsibilities to its active-duty members?

**A.** Our active-duty members are most directly affected by the strength of our nation's defense priorities. They need the best weapons, the finest training and the highest-level

readiness that money can buy. After all, their lives depend on this.

Our responsibility is to help get them the support they need from Congress.

They cannot lobby on Capitol Hill when our national security and their lives are at issue. But we can—and do—on their behalf.

Beginning this month, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE will feature a column called "On Duty," which will address the concerns of active-duty troops, Reservists and those preparing to leave the military.

Many of our members joined The American Legion as active-duty GIs and have left the service because of the post-Cold War downsizing. They need us to help them find jobs, to assist them in settling down in our communities and to guide them through the maze of regulations and bureaucratic paperwork in trying to get the VA benefits they so justly deserve.

### Q. How can the Legion best contribute to the goal of establishing and maintaining a strong national defense?

**A.** People are the foundation of our national defense. We need to focus on the quality-of-life issues that affect men and women in the military—active, Reserve and Guard and those who make it a career.

There are many military families who are struggling to make ends meet with food stamps and other forms of public assistance. This is a disgrace. We must compensate our troops ade-

**"IMPROVING  
 the quality  
 of life of our  
 forces is  
 one of my  
 priorities as  
 National  
 Commander."**





# Most Veterans Don't Qualify for *LegionLife*



## *But You Do!*

*As a member of The American Legion you are eligible to apply for The LegionLife program offered only to American Legion members and their families.*

### **FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES UNDER AGE 50**

Member: The Plan provides \$2,500 up to \$1,000,000 of term life insurance coverage to members under age 50. Spouse: \$2,500 to \$500,000 is available.

### **FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES AGE 50 TO 59**

Member and Spouse: The Plan provides from \$2,500 to \$250,000 of term life insurance coverage to members and their spouses age 50 to 59.

### **FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES AGE 60 TO 64**

Member: The plan provides \$2,500 up to \$100,000 of term life insurance coverage to members age 60 to 64. Spouse: \$2,500 to \$50,000 is available.

### **FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES AGE 65 AND OVER**

If you're age 65 or older...you can qualify for coverage under The American LegionLife "Modified Issue" Program if...during the six months prior to the date you applied for this Plan, you were not hospitalized or in a nursing home.



### **FOR MEMBERS AND SPOUSES WHO HAVE HEALTH PROBLEMS**

If your health prohibits you from qualifying for coverage under our Standard Plan, you can still qualify for coverage under our "Modified Issue" Program if you are age 50 or older and...

- during the 90 days prior to the date you applied for this Plan you were actively-at-work; or
- if not working, you were able to carry on all of the normal and customary activities of a person of like age and sex in good health. The underwriter will determine if you qualify for standard issue benefits or modified issue benefits.

If you are age 50-64, you can qualify for a benefit of \$10,000.00. Age 65-74: \$5,000.00. Age 75-84: \$2,500.00. Age 85-89: \$2,000.00. Age 90-98: \$1,000.00. Benefits are limited during the first four years your coverage is in force. Full coverage takes effect in the fifth year. (NOTE: ages 85-89 reach maximum benefit in year four. Age 90 and over reach maximum benefit in year two.)

### **WILL I HAVE TO TAKE A PHYSICAL?**

No, probably not. You do have to complete the application and be approved by the insurance company. So all we ask is that you answer the health questions on the attached application form. *(If needed, the insurance company reserves the right to ask you for more information or for you to have a physical examination.)*

### **HOW ABOUT MY CHILDREN?**

For only \$7.29 a year, each dependent child in your family can get a \$2,500.00 benefit. (This offer includes your dependent children age 6 months to 19 years...on up to age 26 if they are full-time students.) Dependent children 15 days to 6 months are eligible for \$100.00 of coverage at the same rate.



## STANDARD MONTHLY RATES

(FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, WE WILL BILL YOU TWICE A YEAR)

		Under age 30	30-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64
\$10,000	Member	\$1.01	\$1.23	\$2.13	\$5.06	\$9.78	\$19.01
	Spouse*	\$0.63	\$0.69	\$1.21	\$2.89	\$5.03	\$11.18
\$5,000	Member	\$0.50	\$0.62	\$1.06	\$2.53	\$4.89	\$9.50
	Spouse*	\$0.32	\$0.35	\$0.60	\$1.45	\$2.51	\$5.59
\$2,500	Member	\$0.25	\$0.31	\$0.53	\$1.26	\$2.44	\$4.75
	Spouse*	\$0.16	\$0.17	\$0.30	\$0.72	\$1.26	\$2.80

*\*Please Note: Spouse coverage in Texas is limited to a maximum of 50% of the Member's benefit.*

One or more children...\$.61 for \$2,500 Benefit.

Premiums are based on age at time of application, and are adjusted on the first premium due date following entrance into a new age bracket. Rates may be adjusted on a group basis.

*For rates over 65 or other benefit levels, please call the plan administrator.*

*Please note: When you reach age 60...if your insurance is in excess of \$500,000, it reduces to \$500,000, and at age 65, to \$100,000. At age 70, your insurance reduces by half of the original amount to not less than \$5,000. At age 80, it will reduce to \$2,500. Your premiums will be adjusted accordingly.*

### CAN MY COVERAGE BE CANCELED BECAUSE I GET SICK LATER ON OR BECAUSE I GET OLDER?

NO! You'll have protection for as long as you need it...just as long as you remain a member of The American Legion, pay your premiums and the group contract remains in effect. Dependent coverage ends when your coverage ends, when premiums are not paid, or when they are no longer eligible dependents.

*Please note: If you die while your spouse is covered under this Plan, his or her coverage may be continued. All your spouse has to do is send in a request for continued insurance - along with the premium payment - within 31 days of the premium due date following your death.*

### HOW SOON CAN MY TERM LIFE PLAN START?

On the first day of the month following the date your application is approved and your premium payment is received.

### IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,

or if you need help answering the questions on your application, call toll free 1-800-542-5547.

SRH 2383 EC

# LegionLife



This Plan does not pay benefits if the insured commits suicide: a) while sane or insane; b) during the first two years of coverage under the policy.

This Plan does not cover death which is: a) caused or contributed to by war or act of war, whether declared or not; b) occurring while in the armed forces of any country or international authority; c) caused or contributed by an accident occurring while riding in or on, boarding or alighting from any aircraft: 1) as a pilot, crew member or student pilot; or 2) as a flight instructor or examiner.

This program is not available in New York, South Carolina, Vermont and for Minnesota residents age 80 and over.

### NOTICE OF INSURANCE INFORMATION PRACTICES (Retain for Your Records)

Your application is our major source of information. However, Hartford Life Insurance Company may also collect or verify information by contacting individuals or organizations which have information or records about you or others to be insured.

Information regarding your insurability will be treated as confidential. Such information will not be disclosed to others without your authorization, except to the extent necessary for the conduct of business. Hartford Life Insurance Company or its reinsurers(s) may, however, make a brief report thereon to the Medical Information Bureau, a nonprofit membership organization of life insurance companies which operates an information exchange on behalf of its members. If you apply to another Bureau member company for life or health insurance coverage, or a claim for benefits is submitted to such a company, the Bureau, upon request, will supply such company with the information in its file.

Upon receipt of a request from you, the Bureau will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. If you question the accuracy of information in the Bureau's file, you may contact the Bureau and seek a correction in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The address of the Bureau's information office is Post Office Box 105, Essex Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02112, telephone number (617) 426-3660.

Hartford Life Insurance Company or its reinsurer(s) may also release information in your file to other insurance companies to which you may apply for life or health insurance, or to which a claim for benefits may be submitted.

Upon written request, Hartford Life Insurance Company will provide you with information in your file. Medical information will be disclosed only through a physician you designate. Details regarding your right to correct or amend information in your file will be furnished upon written request.

If you would like further details, contact Hartford Life Insurance Company, P.O. Box 2999, Hartford, CT 06104-2999. Attn: Special Risk Life-Health Department.

This brochure is for illustrative purposes only, and in no way changes or affects the insurance afforded under the insurance policy conditions and exclusions.

Policy Form SRP-1153 (HL) (1207)

LegionLife underwritten by:  
Hartford Life Insurance Company

LegionLife administered by:  
Kirke-Van Orsdel, Incorporated



ITT HARTFORD





Please complete the following information:

1. **YES!** I want *LegionLife* for:

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

2. Your American Legion Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/day/yr) Sex : ☐ Male ☐ Female

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Height \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. 4. Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.

5. If applying for spouse or child coverage, complete the following:

Full Name	Relationship	Birth Date	Height	Weight
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

6. I want the following coverage

Member: ☐ \$10,000 (OOE1) ☐ \$5,000 (OOC1) ☐ \$2,500 (OOA1)

Spouse: ☐ \$10,000 (OOE5) ☐ \$5,000 (OOC5) ☐ \$2,500 (OOA5)

Age 65 + only: ☐ Modified Issue Plan

Children: ☐ \$2,500 benefit for each child (OOB7)

7. Member's Beneficiary is: \_\_\_\_\_ (full name)

Beneficiary's relationship to member \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Member is automatically beneficiary for spouse & child coverage.

8. Anyone UNDER AGE 65 applying for coverage must answer the questions here in #8, #9, #10 and #11. (Anyone AGE 65-99: Skip these questions and go to #12.)

A. Has anyone proposed for coverage ever had high blood pressure, stroke, heart murmur, disease or disorder of the heart, blood or blood vessels; mental, anxiety or emotional disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, dizzy spells, chronic or severe headaches; disease or disorder of the nervous system; deformity; impaired sight or hearing; kidney or urinary tract...disorder; asthma, emphysema or other respiratory disorder; arthritis, disorder of the neck, spine or other musculo-skeletal disorder; ulcer or disorder of the digestive system; cancer or tumor; or been diagnosed as having, or received treatment or counseling for alcoholism or drug use? ..... ☐ YES ☐ NO

B. During the past five years, has anyone proposed for coverage consulted any physician, surgeon, psychiatrist or other practitioner for a general examination or for any other reason not previously noted on this application; or has anyone been confined or treated in any hospital or sanatorium or similar institution?..... ☐ YES ☐ NO

C. Have you or any dependent been diagnosed as having, or been treated for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), AIDS-Related Complex (ARC) or any other immune deficiency disorder?..... ☐ YES ☐ NO



9. If anyone proposed for coverage answered YES to Questions A, B or C...in question 8, give details below.

Q#	Name of family Member	Dates To/From	Give details, including nature of illnesses, number of attacks, duration, severity, treatment, and date of full recovery.	IMPORTANT: LIST NAMES AND COMPLETE ADDRESSES OF YOUR DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS.

10. Has everyone proposed for coverage been actively engaged in full-time duties of an occupation during the 90-day period immediately before the date of this application? ..... ☐ YES ☐ NO

11. If anyone proposed for coverage is not employed, have they been able to perform the normal activities of a person of same age and sex during the 90-day period immediately before the date of this application? ..... ☐ YES ☐ NO

12. Complete these questions if you or your spouse is age 65-99:
- |   | Member   | Spouse   |
|---|--|--|
| A. Has anyone proposed for coverage been hospital- or nursing-home confined within the last 6 months? .....                     | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| B. Is this life insurance program being used to replace any other life insurance policy or certificate presently in force?..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

13. **SEND NO MONEY NOW!** For your convenience, you will be billed only twice a year.

14. **PLEASE READ ALL ITEMS CAREFULLY AND SIGN BELOW.**

#### Authorization to Obtain, Release and Disclose Information

I attest that all statements and answers in: a) this application or medical form required by the Company are full, complete and true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree that a copy of this application will be attached to and form a part of any policy issued.

I have read and understood the Medical Information Bureau, Inc. Pre-Notification. I understand and agree that insurance will not take effect unless this application is approved by the Company. I understand that the Hartford Life Insurance Company has the right to request more evidence of insurability.

I authorize any: a) physician; b) medical or health practitioner; c) counselor; d) therapist; e) hospital; f) clinic; g) medical or medically related facility; h) insurance or reinsurance company that has record or knowledge of my health (or my dependents' health), to give the Hartford Life Insurance Company or its legal representatives any medical or nonmedical information that relates to:

- 1) pre-existing or current: a) illnesses; b) sicknesses; c) diseases; d) disabilities; e) disorders; f) accidents g) injuries; or h) health conditions.
- 2) confinement in a: a) hospital b) medical facility; or c) clinic;
- 3) outpatient treatment in or by: 1) hospitals; b) hospital emergency rooms; or c) medical facilities;
- 4) drug or alcohol abuse;
- 5) mental health;
- 6) counseling or therapy

in order to decide on eligibility for insurance benefits.

This information will be treated as confidential. I understand that the Medical Information Bureau, Inc. will release records or information only to the Hartford Life Insurance Company.

I authorize the Hartford Life Insurance Company to give data on file to: a) its reinsurer(s); b) the Medical Information Bureau, Inc.; c) any other insurance company to whom I (or my dependents) may apply for life or health insurance; or d) other persons or organizations concerned with this form or a claim or as required by law. Except as noted in this form, this data will not be: a) given; b) sold; or c) transferred to any person unless I agree in writing.

I understand that upon written request, I may receive details of how I may obtain, correct and amend any personal data collected about me or my dependents with regard to this form. I understand that if I request details about my medical data collected about me with regard to this form: a) that data; and b) the name of the medical institution or professional that gave such data will be given only to a physician I choose. I understand that upon written request, I may revoke this authorization except to the extent that action has already been taken. I understand that this authorization expires: a) two years from the date of the policy; or b) one year from the date it is signed, if no policy has yet been issued.

I understand a photographic copy of this authorization will be as valid as the original.

I understand that, upon request, I am entitled to receive a copy of this authorization form.

I hereby apply for coverage under this Group Term Life Program and understand that if I am age 65-99, I will receive a graded benefit plan based upon my answer to the above questions as described in the brochure, I further understand and agree that no coverage will become effective unless, if age 65 or over, I have not been confined in a hospital or nursing home within the last six months.

Member's Signature **X** \_\_\_\_\_ Date **X** \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name)

Spouse's Signature **X** \_\_\_\_\_ Date **X** \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name)

*Remember...you need send no money now to apply!*

Mail this completed application form to: **The American Legion Insurance Plans**  
**P.O. Box 9181**  
**Des Moines, Iowa 50306**



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TCHAIKOVSKY

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GERSHWIN

**The Flight Of  
The Bumble Bee**  
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV

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Cavalleria  
Rusticana**  
MASCAGNI

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Tannhauser**  
WAGNER

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LEHAR

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VERDI

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STRAUSS

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Circumstance  
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ELGAR

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TCHAIKOVSKY

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**Minute Waltz**  
CHOPIN

**Vilia from The  
Merry Widow**  
LEHAR

**Love Theme from  
Elvira Madigan**  
MOZART

**Musetta's Waltz  
from La Boheme**  
PUCCINI

**Waltz in A Flat**  
BRAHMS

**Waltz from  
Die Fledermaus**  
STRAUSS

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Swan Lake**  
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**And 49 MORE Just As Beautiful!**



**MINNESOTA'S**  
**DANIEL A. LUDWIG**  
 Elected National Commander

quately and pay attention to things that affect their welfare—career stability, regular promotions, adequate housing, quality health care and accessible commissaries.

How can we expect our military men and women to fight for our country when we don't provide for their most basic needs?

We also have to be sure retired military people are taken care of. When our troops consider making a career out of the military, they look at how those who came before them were treated.

Career military men and women are the backbone of our national defense.

That is why The American Legion consistently lobbies to preserve the benefits of military retirees and make life better for active-duty military families.

Improving the quality of life for our forces is one of my national security priorities and one The American Legion will be committed to while I'm National Commander.

**Q. What other veterans' priorities concern you?**

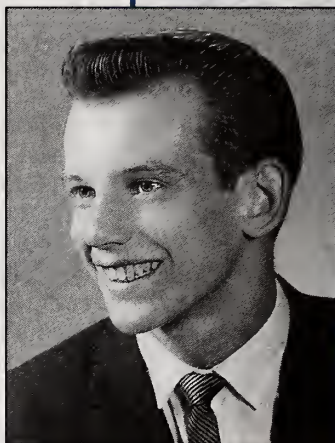
**A.** Getting a job after leaving the military isn't easy. That's one reason why there are so many veterans living on the streets.

We have to build on the programs that already exist, support them before Congress and state legislatures and work on new ways to bring veterans and those leaving the service into the work force.

Our Posts can be excellent resources for veterans who are interested in networking and making job contacts.

And we must guide these veterans to Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVERs) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Placement Specialists (DVOPS), who are skilled professionals in finding civilian jobs.

During the 104th Congress, the Legion has been lobbying vigorously to preserve LVERs and DVOPS as budget shortfalls have threatened their positions.



**SERVICE**—National Commander Ludwig's Navy service aboard the nuclear submarines USS James Madison, above, and the USS Alexander Hamilton led to a civilian job at a nuclear power plant in Minnesota.

We also are seeking legislation that will ensure that GI Bill benefits keep pace with the rising costs of college. Providing veterans with the opportunity to earn an education has proven itself to be a winning concept time after time. For veterans to compete for the best jobs, we need better GI Bill benefits.

And last but not least, since many jobs today offer poor health-care coverage, the need for quality, accessible VA care has never been more critical.

**Q. What is the Legion doing to provide better VA health care for veterans?**

**A.** The American Legion is constantly lobbying Congress to give VA enough money to provide the type of care that veterans deserve. Right now, things are not being done to improve the system because Congress doesn't seem to want to invest in it.

Reform within VA is also necessary, but that takes money. Other federal programs such as Medicare have gotten double-digit increases while VA continues to struggle. One of the key problems is that VA can't keep money from insurance or get money from either Medicare or Medicaid when it treats eligible veterans who are covered by these programs. VA is providing care without any money

coming in and simply can't survive under these circumstances. VA's budget doesn't even begin to keep pace with rising medical costs.

We also need VA to maintain its specialized role in veterans' health care from prosthetics to PTSD to spinal cord injury.

VA must use its resources to treat and cure Desert Storm veterans with Gulf War Syndrome. A cure for this must be found, and VA must take the lead.

VA must also accept its responsibility to compensate and treat Agent Orange victims.

**Q. What do you want The American Legion to accomplish over the next year?**

**A.** I want to see the Legion welcome more Gulf War veterans as members and allow them to play a role in leading our organization. I want us to press for an effective policy to protect POW/MIAs and for a constitutional amendment that will protect our flag from physical desecration. I want the Legion Post to be the center of every community. And I want to make sure America is still taking care of its veterans.

If we can do that, every American will know that The American Legion is still serving America. □



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## 'YOU'RE FINE. REALLY, YOU ARE. UNDERSTAND? YOU'RE FINE....'

**M**EMO TO the Pentagon: The ability to hold unswervingly to a predetermined course is great when you're talking about cruise missiles. But when the subject is vital research into Gulf War Syndrome, it's another story.

In early August, the Pentagon, through its Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program (CCEP), said its research revealed no link between Gulf service and the various maladies reported by Desert Storm veterans. Or, as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Dr. Stephen Joseph, put it, "the CCEP experience to date, involving extensive evaluations of over 10,020 patients, continues to show no clinical evidence for new or unique illnesses or syndromes among Persian Gulf veterans." Joseph also dismissed

the presence of any "severe disability" among study participants.

Two weeks later, in testimony before the President's Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) begged to differ. IOM criticized CCEP for drawing premature conclusions based on insufficient data, recommending that the panel "either be more cautious in making this conclusion, or justify it better." In other words, it would be nice if the Pentagon waited till it had its facts straight before it committed itself to a position on Gulf War Syndrome.

Even aside from questions about the existence of any new "syndromes," IOM noted the improbability that more than 500,000 troops could have participated in Desert Storm without at least some of those troops contracting the sorts of exotic infectious diseases

indigenous to the Middle East. Finally, the agency pointed out that the Pentagon study failed to consider the psychological stress that easily could have worsened any existing physical or mental illness.

The American Legion has long maintained that a full, unbiased inquiry must be conducted before any determinations are made—and this time around, veterans seem to have an ally in the White House.

Alluding to the CCEP study's implausible conclusions, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton told the IOM panel, "So far, the research that the government has conducted indicates that thousands of veterans who were healthy when they left for the Gulf War are now ill." Mrs. Clinton added that no one yet knows what legitimate research might prove.

### Agent Orange Outrage

It sometimes seems that VA works awfully hard to find ways to deny disability claims. Ron Abrams of the National Veterans Legal Services Project cites one example of this. He says a Vietnam veteran with lung cancer—which is on VA's presumptive list of illnesses associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents like Agent Orange—was denied compensation because he had cancer in other parts of his body not included on the list. VA determined (conveniently enough) that the cancer started in his stomach and then moved to his lungs.

Abrams says veterans filing a VA claim for presumptive cancers can help themselves by obtaining statements from their own doctor confirming the diagnosis and origin of their illnesses.

Meanwhile, Vietnam veterans suffering from peripheral neuropathy or prostate cancer will have to wait another year to see if their cancers are added to the presumptive list. At present, VA will pay compensation for peripheral neuropathy if it appears within 10 years of exposure to Agent Orange—but there's a catch. The veteran must not

have been exposed to other chemical substances known to cause the condition, or exhibit other factors associated with the disease, such as age, diabetes or alcoholism.

### Legion Appeals To Court

The Legion has taken the Agent Orange issue to the Supreme Court. For nearly six years, the Legion has battled the courts seeking justice for veterans who are victims of Agent Orange. In August the Legion asked the court to hear its lawsuit challenging the federal government's cancellation of a full study on the long-term effects to veterans from exposure to Agent Orange.

In the suit, the Legion contends that no agency of the federal government had the right to refuse to perform the study, congressionally mandated in 1979. Says National Commander Daniel A. Ludwig, "We are sticking to our word to veterans. We said we would take this issue all the way to the Supreme Court, if necessary. Unfortunately, it has proved necessary."

In spite of an expenditure of more than \$63 million, both VA and the Centers For Disease Control said a study was impractical (with VA officials ini-

tially claiming they could not locate any Vietnam veterans). Even the government's top scientific body, the National Academy of Sciences, said in a 1993 report that a study was possible.

As long ago as 1984, The American Legion commissioned Columbia University to do a study, which revealed strong links between Agent Orange and a wide range of diseases.

### Overseas Gravesites

Widows, parents, siblings, children and guardians of deceased veterans buried in permanent American overseas gravesites may apply for a no-fee passport to visit the gravesite or tablet commemorating a veteran missing in action. There are 24 overseas cemeteries providing a final resting place for more than 100,000 Americans killed during World Wars I and II. The American Legion Overseas Graves Decoration Trust pays for flags and other decorations to be placed at these graves.

Family members planning to visit an overseas gravesite should contact the American Battle Monuments Commission, Room 5127, Pulaski Building, 20 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20314-0001. □



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## Flag Alert! Final Push For Amendment

**T**HE NEXT few days may well represent your final chance to make a difference in protecting Old Glory. As you read this, in all likelihood, the Senate is approaching a vote on S.J.R. 31, the constitutional amendment to ban flag burning and other forms of desecration.

Make your voice heard on this issue. Call your senator through the Capitol Hill switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

"The only way we're going to be heard is to flood senators' offices with calls," says Citizens Flag Alliance (CFA) President Daniel S. Wheeler.

The measure needs a two-thirds majority, or 67 votes, to be sent to the states for ratification. As of late August, 56 senators had co-sponsored the amendment.

Wheeler said that recent polls in Illinois and New Jersey should persuade even more legislators. For example, in an Illinois poll conducted among registered voters deemed likely to vote, 60 percent said they would definitely or probably vote for the amendment. The poll was conducted by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates.

The New Jersey poll, by the Tarrance Group, showed similar results, with 61 percent of respondents supporting a flag-protection amendment.

"Voters in Illinois and New Jersey have sent a clear message that protecting the U.S. Flag is a pivotal issue

and will not go away," says Wheeler.

The polls also showed that a senator's stance on the amendment may also affect his or her political future. For example, in New Jersey, 19 percent of those surveyed said that a candidate's position on the flag amendment will determine their vote in the next election.

Five Gallup surveys commissioned by The American Legion have yielded the same results, with 80 percent supporting an amendment. The House reflected that support in June by voting 312-120 for the amendment.

Says Wheeler, "There is no other issue in America that has the intensity of support that the amendment to protect our flag has."

If your senator is not yet on-board in the fight to protect the flag, call him or her

via the Capitol Hill number noted earlier. If you're not sure where your senator stands, or you'd like more

information on how you can help in the campaign, call the CFA's toll-free hotline, (800) 424-FLAG. □

### Flying High In Hightstown, N.J.

**B**USINESSES AND homes in Hightstown, N.J., are displaying the U.S. Flag more than ever before.

A program spurred by Legionnaire Walter Orey of Post 148, Hightstown, commends people who display the flag 24 hours a day.

"I wanted to try it and see how it would go," says Orey, the Post adjutant.

The Post gave its first awards to 10 proud flag-flyers in a special ceremony at the beginning of the year. Each received a citation which read, "The American Legion citation of appreciation awarded for exhibiting outstanding

citizenship by the display of the United States flag, 24 hours a day, properly illuminated at night."

Orey, a supporter of the Citizens Flag Alliance, says the campaign at his Post is a way to show respect for the flag at a community level. "We are trying to get the grassroots people to say, 'This is my country, that is my flag,'" says Orey. "We did it as a one-Post show. Now, there are several people in other counties and the state who are interested in it."

Post 148 plans to run a another campaign encouraging display of the flag this year. □

### BOYS NATION PRESIDENT MOTIVATED TO SUCCEED

**W**HEN Boys Nation President Rick Lam Jr. of Tecumseh, Okla., stepped onto the White House lawn, he thought, "Wow, this is the place I have seen on the news hundreds and thousands of times. Everyone is looking for someone important to walk out."

For 17-year-old Lam and the nearly 100 high school students attending Boys Nation, the highlight of their week in Washington was the White House visit with President Bill Clinton, a 1963 Boys Nation delegate.

The American Legion for 49 years has been hosting Boys Nation in Washington to show American youths how their federal government operates.

A junior at Tecumseh High School, Lam is a class officer, ranks in the top 10 percent of his class, plays tennis and serves on the student council. The son of Rich and Sue



**RICK LAM JR.**  
Boys Nation President  
1995

Lam, he is a charter member of the Citizens Flag Alliance. He is also active in Tecumseh Post 260, which sponsored his citizenship in Boys State where he was named Oklahoma's Boys State Governor.

Lam was elected president by other Boys Nation delegates. Lam and Vice President James Scott Wong, sponsored by Post 27, Morris County, N.J., will receive \$1,500 scholarships from The American Legion. The President Pro-Tem, Damond Garza, Post 35, Guadalupe Valley, Texas, and Secretary of the Senate, Aaron Johnston, Post 9, Derry, N.H., will receive \$500 scholarships. □



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## Korean War Memorial Dedicated

**N**ATIONAL Commander William M. Detweiler and other Legion officials were among the more than 50,000 people who braved the sweltering Washington heat in July to witness the dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial. (See "The Long, Silent March," Page 14.)

During the four days of dedication events, July 26-29, Detweiler joined President Bill Clinton and others at a wreath-laying ceremony honoring the Korean War dead at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Detweiler also hosted a reception for 51 Korean War veterans—one from each domestic Legion Department—and later led a Legion marching unit along Constitution Avenue in a parade honoring Korean War veterans. The contingent included nearly 300 Legionnaires and The American Legion Band of Joseph F. Hill Post 156, Waltham, Mass.

The memorial itself was dedicated July 27, the 42nd



**NOT FORGOTTEN**—Past National Commander John P. "Jake" Comer, a member of the memorial's advisory board, speaks at a press conference following the dedication ceremonies. Legion donations to the memorial fund were more than \$576,000.

anniversary of the Korean War cease-fire. The centerpiece of the memorial is 19 sculpted, stainless steel statues of U.S. troops—representing all branches of the service—marching uphill on a triangular field toward an American Flag. At the apex of the triangle is a circular 30-foot-diameter pool.

Korean War veteran and Past National Commander John P. "Jake" Comer was awed by his visit to the

memorial at night.

"The statues each have a spotlight that shines just on the faces. It's very dramatic," said Comer, who was appointed to the memorial's advisory board in 1990.

The \$18 million memorial was built without taxpayers' support by donations from veterans and private corporations.

The Legion donated more than \$576,000 to the memorial fund. □

## NEWS BRIEFS

### CORRECTION ON THE AUGUST PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM ARTICLE

**T**HE article about the Discount Prescription Program in the August issue of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE ("Prescription Program Saves Legion Family Money," Legion News) failed to state that the RXAmerica program is unavailable in Maryland. The Department of Maryland has its own prescription program.

We apologize for the error.

### A NEW WAY TO GIVE TO THE CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION

**T**HE American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) has been approved to participate in this year's Combined Federal Campaign—the government equivalent of the private sector's United Way. Donors can now give to the CWF by selecting the campaign contribution code 1397. For more information, write to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. □

## SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED

**S**AMSUNG, South Korea's largest corporation, is donating \$5 million to establish The Samsung American Legion Scholarship for descendants of American war veterans.

The scholarship was announced by Samsung officials during dedication ceremonies for the Korean War Veterans Memorial in July.

"Samsung would like to recognize the sacrifices of U.S. servicemen and women who served during the Korean War to protect and maintain the Korean peninsula," said Ki Suk Park, chairman of Samsung Engineering & Construction Co. "I cannot overstate my country's appreciation for the sacrifice that so many American troops and

families made on behalf of peace."

Senior high school students who are descendants of U.S. wartime veterans are eligible. Criteria for scholarship selection will include academic record, financial need and involvement in school and community activities. Beginning in 1996, winners will be announced during the school fall semester each year. The number and specific amount of scholarships has yet to be determined.

"We are honored that Samsung has chosen The American Legion to administer the scholarship program to further the education of the descendants of those American men and women who have served this nation in time of war," said National Commander William M. Detweiler.



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## Legion Mourns Passing Of Two National Commanders

**J** MILTON Patrick, National Commander of The American Legion in 1969-70, died in July at the age of 81.

A WWII Army veteran, Patrick fought with the 9th Inf. Div., earning a Purple Heart for wounds he received while serving with Gen. Courtney Hodges' First Army at Aachen—the

first city in Germany to be occupied by American troops.

When he returned home in 1945, he joined Post 131 of Skiatook, Okla., where he served as the Post's first WWII commander. During his many years with the Legion, Patrick served as National Vice Commander (1961-62) and was appointed to several national commissions and committees.

He was also director of the National American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation in 1972.

He is survived by his wife, Verona, and sons James, Louis and David. Patrick was a prominent businessman and banker, serving his community as city councilman, secretary of the Tulsa County Mayors' Association and chairman of the local Red Cross.

"He was very proud of his work on the POW/MIA issue," says Oklahoma NECman Lawrence Roy. "He was also very



**J. MILTON PATRICK**  
National Commander 1969-70

active in his community. He did a lot for Skiatook." □

### IN HONOR OF THE 32ND



Tony Bacino, a member of Post 2, Pueblo, Colo., traveled to Papua New Guinea to honor comrades who fought with him in the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division during World War II. Bacino placed a plaque in honor of the division at the bottom of a memorial previously dedicated by Past National Commander Dominic D. DiFrancesco. The South Pacific island was the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting of World War II. In Bacino's unit, the 126th Inf. Rgt., 266 of 3,791 men were killed and 3,140 were either wounded or stricken with malaria or dysentery.

**D**ALE L. Renaud, the 1985-86 National Commander, also died in July. He was 62.

A Korean War Coast Guard veteran, Renaud was a 41-year member of Post 396, Bondurant, Iowa, where he was Post Commander from 1964 to 1966.

He was born and raised on a small farm near Bondurant and attended Simpson College where he met his wife, Patricia. They had three children—Pete, Nancy and Ann.

Renaud has a long list of Legion accomplishments: He was National Executive Committeeman from 1979 to 1983; Iowa's Department Commander in 1971-72; and held many Department and national offices.

At the time of his death he was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, where he coordinated the



**DALE L. RENAUD**  
National Commander 1985-86

VA's homeless program with other government agencies and veterans' groups. "Dale exemplified the best in human nature," says Past National Commander Donald E. Johnson, a longtime friend of Renaud's. "He was devoted to people and especially to veterans. A person of high principle, he devoted his adult life to the community, state and nation. He will be missed, but his commitment should serve as a beacon for all of us." □



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If you know the VETS five-digit number assigned to your ship or unit, please give it to the operator. The number is printed after each outfit's name listed in the magazine. If you don't know the VETS number or do not see your ship or unit listed in the magazine, VETS operators may still be able to provide you reunion information. Units are enrolling in VETS daily.

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Reunion coordinators can enroll their units in VETS by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to VETS, P.O. Box 901, Columbia, MO 65205-0901. Unit names are published one time per year.

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1st Air Cav Div, 7th Rgt, 5th Bn Assn (VN 66/71) #18761  
1st FII Inf. Rgt., VFW Post 1572 (Walpahu, HI) #19791  
1st Inf. Div., 16th Rgt, 2nd Bn., D Co. (1967-68) #13688  
1st Inf. Div., 2nd Rgt., 2nd Bn., C Co. (Lalkhe, VN 65/70) #14819  
1st Mar. Div., 5th Rgt, F Co. (69/70) #19233  
1st Radio Research Avn. Co., "Crazy Cat" (1967/68) #13968  
1st Sig. Bde. (VN) #19422  
2nd Arm'd Div., 82nd Recon. Bn., A Co., "Hell on Wheels" #19096  
2nd Div. Assn., Nat. (Indian Head) #19601  
2nd Inf. Div., 72nd (H) Tank B&L, C Co. #19593

2nd Inf. Div. "Indianhead" Assn. (Korea) #10372  
3rd Cav. Grp. Assn. (WWII) #16082  
4th AAA (RAF Eng., '50/53) #22887  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 126th Ord. #13202  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 14th AFA, 2nd Bty. #13194  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 16th AFA, 1st Bty. #13195  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 195th AAA #13200  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 197th AFA #13201  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty. 22nd AFA, 1st Bty. #13196  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 66th AFA, 1st Bty. #13197  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 78th AFA, 2nd Bty. #13198  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty., 94th AFA, 2nd Bty. #13199  
4th Arm'd Div. Arty. (Incl. Support Units) #13152  
4th Inf. Div., 1st Bde., 4th Bn., C Co., 3rd Pltn. #19799  
4th Inf. Div., 40th Tank Bn., (1950-57) #15543  
4th Inf. Div. "Ivy" Assn (National) #16302  
4th Major Port (WWII) #20587

4th Recon. Bn. Assn. (US Forces In Austria, '45/55) #10587  
4th Replace. Depot (Japan, WWII) #15622  
5th Inf. Div., 10th Rgt., B Co. (1940/45) #11691  
5th Inf. Div., 11th Rgt., 1st Bn., D Co. (VN, '68/69) #19346  
5th RCT (Korea, '49/54) #14104  
7th Army, NCO Academy (Ger., 1968/75) #19937  
7th Cav. Rgt. (Korea 1950/51) #23040  
7th Evac. Hosp. (S. Pacific) #20890  
7th FA Assn. #10368  
7th Inf. Div., 13th Engr. Combat Bn. (All Years) #19992  
8th Cav., 1st Bn. (VN) #21537  
9th & 10th Horse Cav. Assn. #15845  
9th Arm'd Div., 89th Recon., E Trp. #20320  
9th Arm'd Div. CA, 27th Arm'd Inf. Bn., A Co. (WWII) #20590  
9th Inf. Div., 39th Rgt., F Co. (WWII) #10291  
9th Inf. Div., 3rd/5th Arm'd Cav. "Black Knights" (VN) #15982  
9th Rgt, 1st Cav Div, C Trp. Scouts (Phouc Vinh, VN '70) #14839  
10th Inf. Div., 40th FA Bn. (1954/58) #16176  
10th Inf. Div., 87th Rgt., Med. Co., "Gyroscope" (Ger., '55/57) #19894  
10th Radio Research Unit, 313th Sec Agency Bn, 371st Radio/Sec Co's #20306  
11th Air Assault, 118th Inf. Rgt. #19646  
11th Arm'd Cav. Rgt. "Blackhorse Assn." #22777  
11th Evac. Hospital #20530  
12th Corps, 3rd Army (ETO, '44) #11780  
12th FA Observ. Bn. (WWII) #15396  
13th Arm'd Div., 93rd Cav. Recon. Sq. #15562  
13th Arm'd Div. Assn. #10409  
13th Major Port #22806  
14th Arm'd Div, 499th AFA Bn, A Btry #19633  
15th FA, 7th Bn (VN) #22784  
15th General Hospital (Eng., WWII) #19999  
17th AAA Grp. (WWII) #15868  
21st AAA AW Bn. (Self Propelled), D Btry. #20574  
21st Avn. Engrs. Rgt. #10399  
22nd Station Hospital (Hawaii, WWII) #19317  
24th Constabulary Sq., D Trp. #20268  
24th Inf. Div., 26th AAA AW Bn., A Btry. (Japan/Korea, '49/53) #11114  
24th Inf. Div., 34th Rgt. #19396  
25th Inf. Div., 21st AAA AW Bn. #20081  
25th Inf. Div., 27th Rgt. (WWII) "Wolfhounds Assn." #11844  
25th Inf. Div., 5th Rgt., 1st Bn. Mech. (VN) #11995  
25th Inf. Div., 8th FA Bn. (Korea, '50/53) #10354  
26th Inf. Div., 328th RCT (ETO, WWII) #10254  
26th Inf., Scout Dog Pltn. (Korea, '53/54) #19747  
27th Inf. Div. Assn. (NYNG, WWII) #16534  
28th General Hospital (1951/53) #16655  
30th FA Grp., HQ & HQ Btry., (41/45) #18726  
30th Med. Depot Co. #20519  
30th Sig. Hvy. Const. Bn. #15224  
31st/241st Engr.(C) Bns. (WWII) #16501  
31st Sig. Hvy. Const. Bn. (CBI, '42/45) #30031  
32nd Inf. Div., 127th Rgt., G Co. (WWII) #16717  
32nd Inf. Div., Red Arrow Club Of S. Wisc. #20677  
32nd Signal Bn. (WWII) #19339  
33rd Arm'd Rgt, 2nd Tank (H) Bn, A Co (Germany, WWII) #18814  
34th General Hospital (Korea, '51/53) #20547  
35th Inf. Div., 137th Rgt., H Co. #16454  
37th Inf. Div., All Units (FL Chapt.) #30032  
38th Inf. Div., 151st Rgt., G Co. (WWII) #16075  
40th Div., 108th Inf. Rgt., K Co. (WWII) #13940  
40th Inf. Div., 223rd Rgt., M Co. (Korea) #11191  
40th Inf. Div. "N.E. Chapter" (Korea) #16427  
42nd Inf. Div., "Rainbow" Assn. (WWI,

WWII) #16044  
44th Inf. Div., 217th FA Bn. #10483  
45th Inf Div, 120th Medics, A Co. "Thunderbirds" (WWII) #15919  
45th Inf. Div., 179th Rgt., (H) Mortar Co. (Korea) #19764  
46th Ord. MM Co. #11349  
48th General Hospital (Eng., France, WWII) #15454  
53rd CAC, A thru G Btry's, 1st/2nd/3rd Bn. Hq's (1942/44) #12593  
58th (A) FA Bn. (WWII) #18977  
59th Field Hosp. (Europe, WWII) #19625  
60th Sig. Bn. (WWII) #22651  
68th AAA Gun Bn. (Korea 1950/54) #16721  
69th "Fighting" Inf. Div. Assn., Inc. (WWII) #12343  
69th Inf. Div., 880th FA Bn., Hq Btry. Assn. #15671  
69th Sig. Bn. (VN) #13458  
71st Cml. Mort. Bn./479th AAA AW Bn. #15375  
76th Engr. Const. Bn. (Korea, 1950/53) #23016  
76th General Hospital #16149  
78th Inf. Div. Assn. (Hudson Valley/Upper NY & NJ) #22720  
78th Inf. Div. "Texas Cohorts" #19880  
80th General Hospital, 141st Fld. Hospital, Hq Base, M Sec. (WWII) #15364  
82nd A/B Div., 376th Parachute FA Assn. #16058  
83rd Inf. Div., 329th Rgt., E Co. (WWII) #16002  
86th Chem. Mortar Bn. Assn. #16089  
87th Chem. Mtr. Bn. Assn. #18925  
88th Chem. Mortar Bn. (WWII) #16094  
91st Cav. Recon. Trp. Mechanized #19883  
96th Inf Div. Assn. "Deadeyes" #16567  
97th General Hospital (WWII) #20637  
97th Inf. Div. #20452  
97th Inf. Div., 322nd Rgt., Anti-Tank Co. (WWII) #16321  
97th Inf. Div., 322nd Med. Bn. #11668  
97th Inf. Div., 387th Rgt., B Co. #22571  
97th Inf. Div., 387th Rgt., G Co. (WWII) #21300  
99th Ord. HM Co. (WWII) #19997  
101st AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #15219  
101st A/B Div., 320th Arty., 2nd Bn. (Ashau Bn, '69/71) #14210  
101st A/B Div., 377th Parachute FA Bn., C Btry. #20216  
101st A/B Div. (Vietnam) #19331  
101st Cav. Grp., 101st/116th Recon. Sq's (WWII) #15717  
104th Engr. Combat Bn. (WWII) #16576  
106th Ord. Co. (50/55) #19075  
112th Engr. Combat Bn. #15729  
112th FA Assn. #15312  
112th Sta. Hosp., 263rd General Hosp. (Calcutta) #10479  
118th Sig. Radio Intell. Co. (WWII) #22502  
121st QM Supply Co. #15537  
125th AAA Gun Bn. (WWII) #16565  
137th Sig. Radio Intell. Co. #15726  
140th Inf. Rgt. (all units, WWII) #19826  
141st Signal Co. (WWII) #20236  
153rd/511th Port Co. (Enenwetok, Korea) #20300  
156th General Hosp. #13753  
164th Anti-Tank & Tank Co. (ND) #16134  
165th Engr. Combat Bn. #20120  
166th Engr. (C) Bn. (ETO, WWII, '44/45) #10187  
167th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #18926  
170th Engr. Combat Bn., A/B/C/Hq Co's (WWII) #16515  
172nd Station Hospital #19258  
174th MP Bn. (MI & WI Ch's) #19172  
181st QM Depot Co., Supply #16437  
185th Signal Bn., B Co. (Camp Polk, LA, Korea) #16348  
187th A/B "Rakkasans" Assn. #22142  
195th Ord. Depot Co. (Korea) #21866  
196th LIB Assn. #10153  
199th Engr. (C) Bn. #10113  
202nd Engr. Combat Bn., C Co. - (WWII) #16187  
203rd AAA AW, D Btry. #15830  
203rd FA Btry., Hq Co. #10880  
204th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #16379  
204th General Hospital (WWII) #22373  
207th Engr. Combat Bn. #10762  
217th General Hospital #23082  
237rd Inf. Regt. Assoc. (Korea 1951/54) #21114

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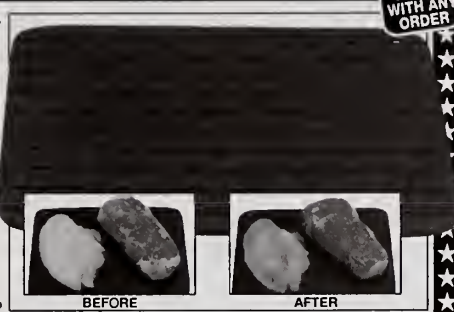
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Formerly Senior A to Z  
Multi-Vitamin/Multi-Mineral Supplement especially for Health Conscious Seniors who care about their health.

60 Tabs **\$3.95** 120 Tabs **\$6.90**  
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Gentle Relief The Natural Way  
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Others Charge \$8.50 A Pound  
1 LB \$3.99  
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**HERBAL DIURETIC TABLETS**  
Reduce excess Body Water  
100-\$1.75  
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60 MG. CAPSULES  
30-\$6.49 / 60- \$11.49  
120- **\$21.90**  
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**VITAMIN A BEAUTY CREME**  
200,000 I.U.'s of Vitamin A (Retinol) in every 2 oz. Jar  
2 oz. Jar-\$5.99 / SAVE! 2 Jars-\$9.99  
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**GREEN TEA**  
... is an exciting blend of some of the richest Green Tea Leaves.  
ITEM # 21319 36 BAGS-\$3.89

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PLUS CHLOROPHYLL  
100 Softgels  
**\$2.50**  
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**CO-ENZYME Q-10**  
**UBIQUINONE**  
10 MG. REGULAR STRENGTH  
ITEM # 16174  
50 CAPS-\$7.95  
100 CAPS-\$14.50  
30 MG. SUPER STRENGTH  
ITEM # 16175  
50 CAPS-\$12.99  
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**"CALCIUM 600"**  
WITH VITAMIN D TABS  
Same potency as CALTRATE™ 600-D which costs \$7.39 for 60 tablets.  
60 FOR **\$3.85** 120 FOR **\$5.50** 240 FOR **\$9.75**  
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500 MG.  
30 Tabs-\$9.95  
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**Cat's Claw**  
UÑA DE GATO  
(UNCARIA TOMENTOSA)  
**350 MG. CAPSULES**  
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ITEM # 16846

**BIG 4-KELP/B-6/LECITHIN & CIDER VINEGAR TABLETS**  
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ITEM # 12478

**DAILY FORMULA**  
COMPARE TO (ONE-A-DAY)  
100-\$1.45 / 500-\$4.99  
ITEM # 16804

**7 1/2 GRAIN BREWER'S YEAST TABLETS**  
500-\$2.79 / 1000-\$4.25  
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**OYSTER CALCIUM 250 MG w/VITAMIN D**  
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ITEM # 14452

**"B-HIGH 100"**  
100 MG B-COMPLEX TABLETS  
50-\$3.99 / 100-\$6.99  
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**ACIOPHILUS CAPSULES**  
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ITEM # 10210

**50 MCG SELENIUM TABLETS**  
100-\$1.99 / 500-\$8.99  
ITEM # 27304

**250 MG ACTIVATED CHARCOAL CAPS**  
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**BILBERRY**  
40 MG. CAPSULES  
HERBS  
FOR THE EYES  
**60-\$10.50**  
ITEM # 12499  
N404 EXP. 10/31/95

**SAW PALMETTO**  
COMPLEX  
SPECIAL FORMULA FOR MEN  
SoftGel Capsules  
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ITEM # 27270  
N404 EXP. 10/31/95

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**LOSE THE FAT, KEEP THE MUSCLE!**  
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ITEM # 15670

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**COMPARE TO ECOTIN®**  
**ENTERIC COATED ASPIRIN**  
SAFETY COATED 325 MG. TABS  
For Arthritis Pain  
**100 - \$2.49**  
ITEM # 11112  
N404 EXP. 10/31/95

**COMPARE TO TYLENOL®**  
**EXTRA STRENGTH PAIN RELIEVER**  
500 MG CAPLETS  
**100-\$3.15 / 500-\$9.99**  
ITEM # 25236  
N404 EXP. 10/31/95

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N404 400 I.U. **VITAMIN E** 99¢  
CAPSULES  
EXP. 10/31/95 500-\$9.99 1000-\$18.99 17602  
50 DAY SUPPLY

N404 500 MG **VITAMIN C** 99¢  
WITH ROSE HIPS  
TABLETS  
EXP. 10/31/95 500-\$6.69 1000-\$12.39 13486  
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CONTAINS 400MCG. OF FOLIC ACID **"TOP-IT"** 99 MG POTASSIUM TABLETS  
8-COMPLEX 50  
50 FOR **2.30** 100 FOR **1.25**  
100-\$3.95 250-\$8.85 500 FOR \$5.00  
ITEM # 11974 EXP. 10/31/95

N404 1000 MG **VITAMIN C** 215  
WITH ROSE HIPS  
90 FOR **2.15** 100 FOR **1.19**  
500-\$10.99 1000-\$20.99 300-\$3.09 600-\$5.29  
ITEM # 13528 EXP. 10/31/95

N404 1200 MG **LECITHIN** 165  
19 GRAIN CAPSULES  
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ITEM # 22708 EXP. 10/31/95

N404 1000 MG **COD LIVER OIL CAPSULES** 139  
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N404 1132 MG **CRANBERRY CAPS** 300  
A FRIEND TO URINARY TRACT HEALTH  
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ITEM # 16636 EXP. 10/31/95

N404 1000 MCG **VITAMIN B-12** 299  
TABLETS  
100 FOR **2.99** 500 FOR \$12.99  
ITEM # 11638 EXP. 10/31/95

N404 **PAPAYA ENZYME** 199  
TABLETS  
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224TH AAA S/L Bn. (WWII) #20708  
 226th MP Co. (WWII) #15584  
 231st Station Hospital (Eng., WWII) #16448  
 233rd Engr. Combat Bn. #15577  
 235th FA Observ. Bn. (Korea) #15808  
 238th Engr. (C) Bn. Assn. #15291  
 243rd Port Co., 495th Port Bn. (WWII) #10580  
 245th CA AAA Gun & Missile Bn's (NYNG, Old 13th Rgt.) #16178  
 250th FA Bn. (WWII) #21659  
 260TH CA (AA) (Incl. Off-shoot Units, DCNG, WWII) #20752  
 278th Engr. (C) Bn., B Co. (WWII) #15945  
 282nd Engr. Combat Bn., C Co. (WWII) #13726  
 286th Jasco Sig. Corp #19040  
 294th JASCO (Omaha Beach WWII, incl Navy) #11406  
 297th Engr. Avn. Bn. (Korean War) #19628  
 300th Arm'd FA Bn., A Btry. #15986  
 307th Replace. Depot Assn. #16344  
 322nd Sig. Bn., All Co's (Incl. 32nd Sig. Bn. '50/Present) #16611  
 338th General Hospital (81st Gen.Hosp.-WWII) #19603  
 343rd Engr. A/B/C Co's #20733  
 344th Engr. Rgt., H&S Co. (WWII, '42/45) #20261  
 347th Engr. (Gen. Serv.) #20065  
 361st Engr. Const. Bn. #16142  
 361st Engr. Rgt. (SS) Assn. #15678  
 361st Station Hospital (Tokyo, Japan, '48/51) #12911  
 368th Engr. Bn. (WWII) #28365  
 404th Sig. Co. #20563  
 405th AAA Gun Bn. #15658  
 406th AAA Gun Bn. & 367th Engr. Const. Bn. (WWII) #15002  
 413th AAA Gun Bn. #15392  
 419th Arm'd FA Bn. #16399  
 424th FA Bn. (Korea) #15619  
 425th MP Escort Guard Co. (WWII) #13327  
 445th AAA AW Bn. Vets Assn. (WWII) #15279  
 451st AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #11524  
 465th AAA AW Bn. (SP) Assn. #10616  
 469th AAA Bn. #13540  
 473rd Inf. Rgt., K Co. (WWII) #16146  
 476th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #15222  
 478th AAA AW (C) Bn (Pacific Theater, WWII) #19637  
 480th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #16162  
 491st AAA AW Bn. #16248  
 495th Port Bn. (WWII) #22923  
 497th AAA Gun Bn. (WWII) #22781  
 501st Med. Collecting Corps, 62nd Bn., B Co. #10803  
 503rd MP Bn. (Italy) #19931  
 503rd PRCT Assn. (WWII) #20730  
 507th Parachute Inf. Rgt. Assn. #10294  
 508th Engr. Util. Det. (Korea, 1947/48) #19366  
 518th Ord. HM Co. (WWII) #19451  
 522nd Ord. HMFA Co. #16590  
 526th Arm'd Inf. Bn. (WWII) #11216  
 528th FA Bn. #19943  
 533rd AAA (AW) Bn. (WWII) #10105  
 536th Amphib. Trac. Bn. (WWII) #15897  
 543rd EB & SR, C Co. #16237  
 557th FA Bn. (WWII) #10569  
 567th AAA AW Bn. #11000  
 568th AAA AW Bn. #15844  
 579th AAA AW Bn. #19984  
 613th Engr. L.E. Co. (WWII) #15825  
 618th Sig. Bn. #19622  
 632nd TD Bn. C Co (Red Arrow Div, Pac. Theater) #30045  
 635th TD Bn. #21873  
 643rd TD Bn. #15820  
 648th TD Bn. #10901  
 659th FA Bn (WWII) #19385  
 690th Ord. Ammo. Co. #19140  
 711th Tank Bn., A Co. #19304  
 724th TROB (Korea) #15568  
 725th/791st MP Bns. (WWII) #16330  
 735th MP Bn. Assn. #16676  
 738th (M) Tank Bn.(SP) (WWII) #15240  
 740th Railway Oper. Bn. #30046  
 743rd R.O.B. #11075  
 749th Railroad Operating Bn. (WWII) #16246  
 750th Tank Bn., D Co. (WWII) #16049  
 759th MP Bn. (Berlin, '45/53) #12396  
 760th FA Bn. Assn. #20860  
 764th Railway Shop Bn. #16253  
 774th TD Bn. #15852  
 791st AAA AW Bn. #15225  
 803rd Engr. Avn. Bn. #16630  
 804th Station Hospital (Ger., '52/53)

#20477  
 805th TD Bn., Recon. Sq (WWII) #19746  
 809th TD Bn. (WWII) #15560  
 814th Ord. Base Dpt. Co. (WWII) #20948  
 815th TD Bn., Hq Co. (WWII) #13313  
 823rd TD Bn. Assn. #12308  
 825th TD Bn. (WWII) #11093  
 866th AAA AW Bn, D Btry #19320  
 893rd Sig. Co., Depot Avn. (WWII) #15965  
 916th Engr. Avn. Supply Point Co. (EASPC, Eng.) #20206  
 951st/183rd FA Bns. (WWII) #15569  
 999th AFA Bn. (Korea, 50/54) #16409  
 1264th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #15861  
 1395th Engr. Const. Bn. (WWII) #16516  
 1906th Engr. Avn. Bn. #15985  
 3166th Arty. Fire Ctrl., 616th OBAM #14195  
 3498th Engr. Amphib., 2nd Bde. #13547  
 3815 Q. W. Gas Supply Co. (WWII) #19263  
 4025th Sig Srv Grp, 832/3169th Sig Srv Bn, DS Seaborne Com Det (WWII) #19781  
 AAAA Avn. Electronic Combat (AEC) #23015  
 Americal Div, 1st Inf Div, 3rd Bn, 11th Lt Inf Bde (VN 69/72) #14065  
 ASA: 351st Comm. Recon. Co. #15504  
 ASA: 8603rd D.U. (Okinawa, '50/56) #19010  
 ASA: 8609th Fld. Sta. Assn. (Philippines) #11623  
 Basic Trn.: 3rd Plt., 1st Trn. Bn., E Btry. (Ft.Sill, OK, Jun/Aug '76) #19939  
 C-588 Bty, Comm. Sec. (Camp Hulen, TX 1944) #19315  
 CBI Sig. Air Warning Units (WWII) #19951  
 Chicago Black Horse Troop Assn. #19950  
 Dusters, Quads & Searchlight Units (Delta to DMZ) #20753  
 IX Corps, Hq Co. #22566  
 IX Corps Society (1940/42) #19912  
 Korean Military Advisory Group (KMAG) #19309  
 Long Binh Post Legal Center (VN, '70) #19796  
 OCS Class 23 TIS (11942) #12092  
 OCS Class 38 (Ft. Riley 1951) #22802  
 OCS Class 42, (Ft. Riley, KS 52) #19368  
 Operation Downfall: 25th/33rd/41st Inf. Div.'s (WWII) #19232  
 Osaka Army Hospital #13173  
 OSS-101 Assn. #19983  
 Soc. of VN Combat Vets (25 Rgt, 5 Div, 1 Bn-Mech) #19723  
 Topographic Engr's (WWII) #13020  
 Veterans Day Salute-Washington, DC (all veterans) #19915  
 VII Corp, Hq & Hq Co. (WWII) #12550  
 X Corps Hq (Incl. Det.'s) #15206  
 X Corps. (Korea 1950-53) Anyone who served #18781  
 XIII Corps Assn. (WWII) #15530

## Navy

4th NCB Spec. #22903  
 13th Fighting Sq. (WWII) #20292  
 21st NCB #20388  
 38th NCB Spec. #19445  
 64th NCB (WWII) #18996  
 78th NCB #20325  
 78th NCB Assn. (WWII) #18083  
 83rd NCB #17987  
 95th NCB (WWII) #10773  
 100th NCB (WWII) #17663  
 114th NCB (WWII) #21077  
 ABATU AOM Class (Norfolk VA, 1943) #19989  
 Acorn-13/15 (Bougainville, Solomons, 1944) #19987  
 ACORN-7/8/15/25 (WWII) #21082  
 AG-12 (WWII) #19367  
 Amphib. Base Attack Boats (Sm.) (WWII) #21897  
 Armed Guard (IL,WI, WWII) #18927  
 Armed Guard: SS Santa Cecilia (World Cruise, '42/43) #20780  
 Armed Guard: SS Tulane Victory #19977  
 Base Hospital #12, Snag 56 (Netley, Eng. WWII) #19426  
 Boat Support Unit 1, MST, SOG (Danang) #20379  
 CAG-27 #13162  
 CAG 2, Inc. (VF-23/24/63/64, VA-65, VC/VT/HU Det, Korea 50/53) #18731

Camp Detrick MD: Navy Unit #11013  
 Car. Air Grp CVG-2, VF-23/24/63/64/65, VC/VT/HU Dets (Korea) #17361  
 CASU-7G #19340  
 CBMU-552 / CBMU-553 #17762  
 Corpsmen United (All Navy/All Years) #11257  
 DESRON-8: USS  
 Wainwright/Trippe/Buck/Rhind/Bristol (WWII) #18171  
 Destroyer Escort Sailors Assn. (DESA) #22869  
 Destroyer Mine Force (WWII) #19855  
 Fleet Air Wing 7 (Dunkeswell, Eng. WWII) #13437  
 Food Service Mgt. Team #22394  
 Helicopter Reunion VX-3, HU-1, HU-2 (Incl. All Descendant Sq's) #18572  
 Iwo Jima Boat Crews (Higgins Boats) #19851  
 JAX Air Trng. Sq's VN-11/12/13/14/15/16 ('40/45) #10295  
 LCI 656 (FF), (JAPAN) #19314  
 LCI National Assn. #21615  
 LCI (R) 31/34 #11072  
 LSM (R) 401 #13323  
 LST-1032 #20179  
 LST-1049 #30150  
 LST-125 #17800  
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 LST-268 #21332  
 LST-317 (WWII) #19337  
 LST-339 #11194  
 LST-360 #20382  
 LST-381 #12409  
 LST-399 (Okinawa/Japan) #19313  
 LST-507/531, Exercise Tiger (English Channel/Eng., Incl.Army, '44) #17972  
 LST-511 (All Years) #14749  
 LST-515 (All Yrs.) #10886  
 LST-582 #10894  
 LST-603 (Ciccinino County) Assn. #18088  
 LST-619 #10246  
 LST-654 #10910  
 LST-661 #20350  
 LST-664 #19998  
 LST-711 #18729  
 LST-752 #19602  
 LST-824 (WWII, 1944/46) #12809  
 LST-856 (WWII) #13500  
 LST-858 / AGC-7 (Recomm. ARL-26, Dec. '47) #28342  
 LST-902 (Korea) #19642  
 LST-907 #17876  
 LST-968 #10226  
 LST-973 #19359  
 LST-994 #21802  
 LST Assn. (IN Chapt.) #19311  
 Manicani Island Assn. (Philippines, '45/46) #21803  
 MATS VRS-3/6/7/8/22 (Incl. Nat Wings) #11126  
 MCB-12 Seabees Assn. Inc. #10742  
 MCB-6 #13793  
 MCB-7 (1951/70) #20524  
 NAG-92 (USS Lexington CV-16, 1944/45) #19661  
 NAMRU-2 (WWII) #10338  
 NAS Deland, All Personnel (1942/46) #17149  
 NAS Ft. Lauderdale (WWII) #13381  
 NAS Memphis, WAVES (WWII) #17940  
 NAS Moffett Field (CA) #18788  
 NAS Pensacola, Photo Class 4-47, Schl. of Photography #12626  
 NAS Sanford (FL) #13316  
 NASWF Albuquerque (NM, 1953/57) #18273  
 NAS Willow Grove, Patrol Sq. 64 (PA) #19752  
 NATS Inc. (Officers & Pilots) #12582  
 NATTC AOM Class, G-9, Sec. 4 (Millington, TN) #19988  
 Naval Mine Warfare School (Yorktown, VA '42/58) #20282  
 Naval Receiving Station (New Orleans LA, WWII) #19779  
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 Navy Musicians #18944  
 NMCB-40 (1942/96) #18736  
 NOB Shanghai China Wang Pu Boat Pool (1946/47) #19364  
 NTC Great Lakes: Co. 328 (1943) #19223  
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 Ormoc Bay, Battle of: USS Moale, USS Cooper, USS Sumner #21529  
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Proj Shad Tech Staff LT-2080-2087 #28347  
 Public Affairs Alumni Assn. (USN PAAA) #19976  
 SC-1299 & SC-980 (Caribbean, Panama WWII) #19913  
 SC-1341 (WWII) #21302  
 Seaplane Base Ord. Grp. 1947 (NAS Whidbey Isl., WA) #19990  
 Sharkhunters (Submarine Historic Group) #14549  
 SLCU-32 & Boat Pool 17 & 18 #11311  
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 Unholy Four: USS Pres. Adams/Jackson/Hayes / USS Crescent City #10280  
 USN Armed Guard Vets (WWII) #19095  
 US Naval Group China (SACO) #10521  
 US Naval Hospital, Memphis, TN (At Millington, TN, '49) #13184  
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 USN PAAA #19354  
 USS Abnaki ATF-96 #17667  
 USS ABSD-2 "Floating Drydock" #10453  
 USS Acree DE-167 #10239  
 USS Adopt AM-137 (WWII) #20029  
 USS Agerholm DD-826 #20358  
 USS Albatross AM-71 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23132  
 USS Algal AKA-54 (All Eras) #17809  
 USS Aludra AK-72 #20933  
 USS America CVA-66 #19927  
 USS Ammen DD-527 Assn. #21128  
 USS Andromeda AKA-15 #17339  
 USS Anne Arundel AP-76 #18240  
 USS Antheodon AS-24 (WWII) #17401  
 USS Anzio CVE-57 Assn. (USS Coral Sea) #21290  
 USS Archerfish AGSS-311 #13806  
 USS Arkansas BB-33 (Marines included) #17774  
 USS Asheville PF-1 #22044  
 USS Ashland LSD-1/48 #17499  
 USS Baham AG-71 #11181  
 USS Bainbridge DLGN-25 #20690  
 USS Bannock ATF-81 (1943/46) #19940  
 USS Barry DD 933 #19329  
 USS Bates DE-68/APD-47 #18867  
 USS Bausell DD-845 #19294  
 USS Bear AG-29 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23139  
 USS Belle Grove LSD-2 (50TH ANIV.) #17495  
 USS Benham DD-796 (1952/70) #19865  
 USS Benham DD-796 (Plank owners, WWII) #13254  
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 USS Bexar APA-237 #13417  
 USS Biloxi CL-80 #21200  
 USS Blackhawk AD-9 (BADRA, Incl. assigned DDs) #11087  
 USS Bluebird AM-72 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23140  
 USS Boggs DD-136/DMS-3/AG-9 (WWII) #18478  
 USS Boston CA-69/CAG-1/SSN-703 (Incl. Mar. Det.) #18037  
 USS Briareus AR-12 (WWII/Korea) #17588  
 USS Brinkley Bass DD-887 #11253  
 USS Bronstein DE-189 #19479  
 USS Broome DD-210 (WWII) #11842  
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 USS Canberra CA-70/CAG-2 (Incl. Mar. Det.'s, '43/71) #10038  
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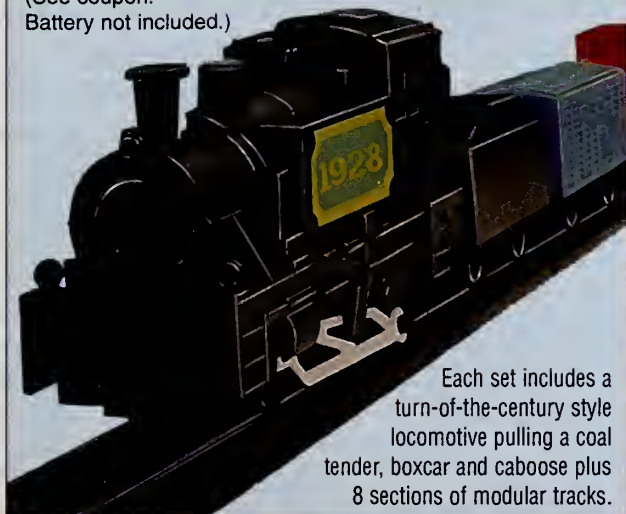


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 USS Grundy APA-111 & USS Griggs APA-110 #13679  
 USS Gust DD-472 (WWII) #18197  
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 USS Halloran DE-305 #19801  
 USS Hank DD-702 #18155  
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 USS Hansford APA-106 Assn. (WWII) #20390  
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 USS Heywood APA-6 (WWII) #18588  
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 USS Hodges DE-231 #19454  
 USS Holt DE-706 #17652  
 USS Hopping DE-155/APD-51 #17706  
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 USS Hudson DD-475 #11008  
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 USS Hugh Purvis DD-709 #18610  
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 USS Kingsbury APA-177 #19475  
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 USS Luzon ARG-2 (All Years) #18268  
 USS Lyman K. Swenson DD-729 (WWII, Korea, VN) #18149  
 USS Major DE-796 #10419  
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 USS Marvin H. McIntire APA-129 #21253  
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#17421  
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 USS Montour APA-101 #14722  
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 USS Mount Hood AE-29 #21267  
 USS Mountrail APA-213 #14388  
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 USS Naos AK-105 #12019  
 USS Neundorff DE-200 #20380  
 USS Newcomb DD-586 #21305  
 USS Newman K. Perry DD-883 #14477  
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 USS Nitro AE-23 #14668  
 USS Noa DD-841/343 #22092  
 USS Norman Scott DD-690 #17698  
 USS Northampton CA-26/CLC-1/CC-1 (1930/70) #18301  
 USS Ogden LPD-5 #13054  
 USS Oglethorpe AKA-100 (All Years) #22139  
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 USS O'Neill DE-188 (WWII) #19089  
 USS Oriskany CVA-34 (Incl. Air Grp's) #10615  
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 USS Otus AS/ARG-20 (1943/45) #11467  
 USS Overton DD-239/APD-23 (WWI/WWII) #21341  
 USS Ozbourn DD-846 #22619  
 USS Pamanset AO-85 #17459  
 USS Panamint AGC-13 #21349  
 USS Paul Revere LPA-248 (VN) #22072  
 USS Payette County LST-1079 #19185  
 USS Pecos AO-65 #10249  
 USS Petrof Bay CVE-80 & VC-76/93 #17802  
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 USS Piedmont AD-17 #17438  
 USS Pierce APA-50 (WWII) #21830  
 USS Pine Island AV-12 Assn. #18457  
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 USS Pringle DD-477 #18684  
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 USS Rawlins APA-226 (WWII) #22004  
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 USS Rocky Mount AGC-3 #19875  
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 USS Rudderow DE-224 #19453  
 USS Rudyerd Bay CVE-61, VC-77/VC-96 Sq's #18336  
 USS Rushmore LSD-14/47 #19778  
 USS Samuel S. Miles DE-183 #17961  
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 USS Saratoga CV-3/CV-60/CVA-60 #17906  
 USS Sarsfield DD-837 (1945/76) #13352  
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 USS Selfridge DD-357 #18593  
 USS Sequatchie AOG-21 #17757  
 USS Sevier APA-233 (WWII) #10782  
 USS Shannon DM-25 #18397  
 USS Shasta AE-6 (1942-69) #22572  
 USS Shasta DM-30 (WWII) #20640  
 USS Shenandoah AD-26 #20813  
 USS Shields DD-596 (Korean War) #18069  
 USS Sigourney DD-643 #19665  
 USS Simpson DD-221 (WWII) #22039  
 USS Smart DE-257 #17645  
 USS Soley DD-707 Assn. (All Years) #18530  
 USS Spangenberg DE-223 #10253  
 USS Springfield CL-66/CLG-7/SSN-761 Bluejackets Inc. #18364  
 USS St Croix APA-231 (1944/46) #14585  
 USS Stevens DD-479 (WWII) #17912  
 USS St Lo CVE-63 & VC-65 #17315  
 USS Storm King APA-171 #21963  
 USS Suwannee CVE-27 (Incl. attached air groups) #10931  
 USS Swasey DE-248 #10290  
 USS Sylvia AFS-2/AKA-44 (WWII-Pre-sent) #11206  
 USS Talbot FFG-4 #13242

USS Talladega APA-208 #18357  
 USS Tallahatchie County LST-1154/AVG-2 #14378  
 USS Taluga AO-62 (WWII) #10967  
 USS Tatum DE-789/APD-81 #22700  
 USS Teal AVP-5 #20954  
 USS Terror CM-5 #17396  
 USS Texas BB-5 #18526  
 USS Thorn DD-647 Assn. (WWII) #21508  
 USS Tisdale DE-33 #18051  
 USS Token AM-126 (WWII) #20252  
 USS Torrance AKA-76 #17533  
 USS Tuluran AG-46 #22349  
 USS Turner DD/DDR-834 #13556  
 USS Underhill DE-682 #17325  
 USS Union AKA-106 (1951/55) #19738  
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 USS Van Valkenburgh DD-656 (Korea) #18521  
 USS Vesuvius AE-15 (WWII) #17095  
 USS Waldron DD-699 #11119  
 USS Wallace L. Lind DD-703 #11373  
 USS Waller DD/DDE-466 #17511  
 USS Walter C. Wann DE-412 #17331  
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 USS Wesson DE-184 #10112  
 USS Whale SSN-638 #19497  
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 USS Windsor APA-55 (1943/45) #12153  
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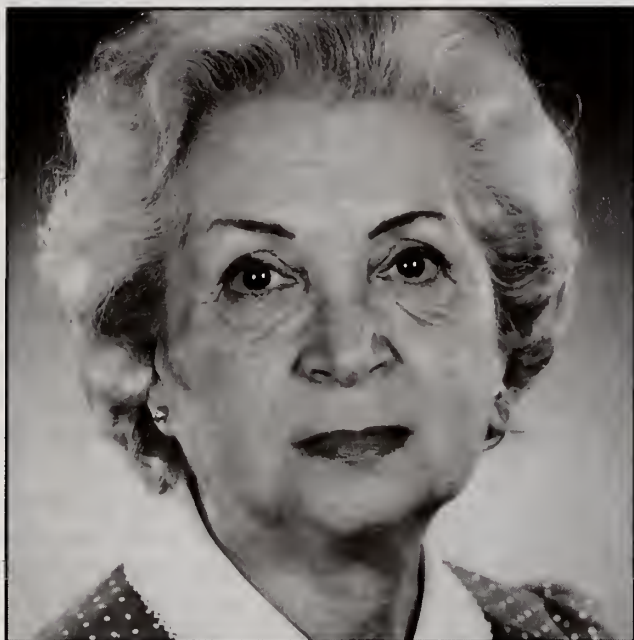
## Army Air Forces

4th Emer. Rescue Sq. (WWII, SW Pacific) #16909  
 5th AF, 38th S.C.U. (N. Guinea 44/45 & Philippines '45) #18949  
 5th AF, 90th Bomb Grp. (H) (WWII) #10462  
 6th AF, 74th Bomb Sq. #20878  
 7th AF, 41st Bomb Grp., 47/48/396/820th SAS (WWII) #12733  
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 8th AF, 398th Bomb Grp. (H) (WWII) #16980  
 8th AF, 447th Bomb Grp. #12538  
 8th AF, 66th Ftr. Sq. #16758  
 8th AF, Hist. Society (NJ Chapt.) #16834  
 8th AF, Hist. Society (PA Chapt.) #14737  
 9th AF, 313th TC Grp., 49th TC Sq. (WWII) #11198  
 9th AF, 485th Air Serv. Sq., P-38's (WWII) #22505  
 13th AF, 29th Air Serv. Grp., Attached Units (WWII) #16754  
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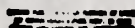
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I, Michael DiStephano, President of That Special Look, Inc., do hereby swear and affirm that the photographs in this advertisement have been printed without retouching or alteration of any kind.

State of Florida  
Palm Beach County

I hereby certify that on this day before me personally appeared Michael DiStephano, well known to me to be the president of That Special Look, Inc. named in the foregoing instrument and he acknowledged executing the same in my presence. Witness my hand and official seal in the county and state last aforesaid, this 25 day of March, 1982.

My commission expires:



*Michael DiStephano*  
THAT SPECIAL LOOK, INC.



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321st Bomb Grp & Missile Wing Assn. #14429  
342nd Air Serv. Sq. #12411  
364th Ftr. Grp. & Spt. Units (Honington Eng., WWII) #15153  
380th Bomb Grp (WWII) "The Flying Circus" #30054  
416th Night Ftr. Sq. (WWII) #19834  
445th Bomb Grp. (WWII) #17781  
454th Bomb Grp. (Italy, WWII) #16889  
457th Bomb Grp. (H) Assn. (WWII) #20024  
458th Air Serv. Sq. (Aldermaston Eng., WWII) #19802  
463rd Bomb Grp., "Swoose Group", (All Support Sq's, Italy, WWII) #16835  
492nd Bomb Grp. (H)/2nd ADA (N.Pickenham Eng., WWII) #21741  
596th S.A.W. Bn., C Co. (WWII) #20192  
601st Tac. Ctr. Sq. (Ger., 1945/90) #16826  
1057th QM Co., 323rd Air Serv. Grp. #21889  
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4145th Base Unit Consolidated Mod. Center #19840  
Anniversary Reunion Childress Field (WWII) #19442  
ATC: North Africa Div. (1943/46) #13862  
Aviation Cadets (Birmingham '44) #13505  
B-29 Bomb Unit (Alamogordo 43/45) #20658  
Bombardier Class 43-13 (Childress AAF, '43) #20439  
Cadet Classes: MA State College (Amherst, '44) #20136  
Eagle Field (Dos Palos, CA) #19417  
Hq. 1st Tac. AF (Prov. WWII) #19415  
Pyote Army Air Base, TX #16056  
Spence Air Field Band #19333  
Veterans Day Salute-Washington, DC (all veterans) #19920

## Marines

1st Mar., 3rd Bn., Mike Co. (VN, 1965/71) #12554  
1st Mar. Div., 1st Arm'd Amphib. Trac. Bn. (WWII) #20321  
1st Mar. Div., 1st Med. Bn., Able/H&S Co. (Korea, '50/53) #18821  
1st Mar. Div., 1st Rgt, 3rd Bn, L Co (3/1, Vietnam 67/70) #17121  
1st Mar Div, 1st Rgt, 3rd Bn (WWII, 1941/45) #30006  
1st Mar. Div., 1st Scout/Recon Co. (WWII) #21893  
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2nd Airdrome Bn., 17th AAA Bn. (WWII) #21009  
2nd Mar. Div. Assn. (all eras) #10839  
3rd Mar. Div., 3rd JASCO #17144  
3rd Mar. Div., 3rd JASCO, 1st Bn. (VN, '67/69) #11217  
3rd Mar Div, 3rd Rgt, 3rd Bn "Stormy Sextons" Assn. (1961/62) #10550  
3rd Mar Div. 9th Rgt, 2nd Bn #14913  
3rd Marine Div. Assn. #19722  
4th Rgt., 2nd Bn. Assn. #10545  
4th Rgt., 3rd Bn. (1925/88) #22307  
5th/14 Def. Bn's Assn. / ZMQ-3 (WWII) #13764  
5th Mar. Div., 26th Rgt., 3rd Bn., K Co. (VN 66/67) #11351  
5th Mar. Div., 5th Med. Bn., B Co. #10271  
7th Rgt., 3rd Bn., Mike Co. (VN, '65/71) #14430  
8th Amtrac Bn. (WWII) #13771  
11th SBC Class of Quantico (1951) #19570  
16th Defense Bn., (Johnston Isl. '42/45) #17195  
Banana Fleet Marines (1920/40) #17168  
CAP Unit Vets Assn., Comb. Act. Pgm. (VN, '65/71) #21321  
Chi Chi Jima Marines #21003  
Drill Instructors (Parris Isl. WWII) #11163  
FMF-PAC Drum & Bugle Team, Hq Co. (Camp Smith HI, All Years) #12206  
HQ MAG-32 (VMF-321/322/323, NC Philippines, '43/45) #19571  
MAG-25/SCAT (WWII) #21038  
Mar. Corps Air Trans. Assn. (MCATA, All VMR/VMGR Sq's) #17076  
Marine Barracks Great Lakes #19177  
Marine Corp. Intell. Assn. #13389  
MAWS-7/MGCIS-7/MACS-7 Assn. (WWII) #17190  
NAD Marine Barracks (Hawthorne NV) #20288  
NAS Antigua, Mar. Det. (Leeward Islands, 1941/42) #14820  
NAS Bermuda, Mar. Det. (1953/57) #14813  
NAS Sand Pt., Marine Barracks (1946/47) #17233  
USS Philippine Sea CV-47 (Marine Det.) #15807  
Veterans Day Salute-Washington, DC (all veterans) #19917  
VMA/VMF-211 #10028  
VMB-433 (WWII) #17118  
VMB-612, PBJ Sq., "Cram's Rams" (WWII) #17104  
VMF-114 (WWII) #23036  
VMF-216 (WWII) #17155  
VMF (N) 541 (Batey Sq) #17165  
VMF(N)/VMFAW/VMFA-531 #22588  
VMF/VMA-211 Reunion Association #12431  
VMO/VMF-155 (WWII) #28303  
VMSB-241 (WWII) #17184  
VMSB-243, "The Flying Goldbricks" (WWII) #21543  
VMTB-23/454 #19748  
VMTB-242 Assn. (WWII) #17193

## Coast Guard

Ammo Loading Detail (Port Edwards, BC) #17008  
Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival, Inc. (Everyone Invited) #23012  
LCI (L) 83-96/319-322/324-326/348/350 (WWII) #19808  
LST-166 #20238  
LST-23 #22243  
LST-26 (WWII) #10143  
SC-527 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12330  
SC-528 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12331  
SC-688 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12332  
SC-689 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12333  
SC-704 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12334  
SC-705 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12335  
USCGC Duane WPG-33 #12568  
USCGC Tampa #10804  
U.S. Coast Guards Vets Reunion (All Eras) #11444  
USS Active WSC-125 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23128  
USS Alvik WYP-164 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23129  
USS Alak WYP-168 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23130  
USS Alatok WYP-172 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23131  
USS Algonquin WPG-75 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23133  
USS Allentown PF-52, Escort Div. 33 (WWII) #17009  
USS Amarok WYP-166 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23134  
USS Arluk WYP-167 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23135  
USS Arundel WYT-90 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23136  
USS Arvek WYP-165 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23137  
USS Atak WYP-163 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23138  
USS Bath PF-55 #19168  
USS Big Horn AO-45 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12337  
USS Bowdoin IX-50 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23141  
USS Cactus WAGL-270 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23142  
USS Calcaterra DE-390 (WWII) #20971  
USS Cayuga WPG-54 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23143  
USS Citrus WAGL-300 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45)

#23144  
USS Comanche WPG-76 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #15162  
USS Corpus Christi PF-44 (WWII) #19458  
USS Eastwind WAG-279 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23145  
USS Escanaba WPG-77 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #23146  
USS Evergreen WAGL-295 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12309  
USS Faunce WSC-138 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12310  
USS Frederick Lee WSC-139 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12311  
USS General Greene WSC-140 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12312  
USS Laurel WAGL-291 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12313  
USS Manhasset AG-47 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #19727  
USS Manitou WYT-60 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12314  
USS Menges DE-320 #17020  
USS Modoc WPG-46 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12315  
USS Mohawk WPG-78 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12316  
USS Mojave WPG-47 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #10522  
USS Monomoy (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #19725  
USS Muskeget AG-48 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #19726  
USS Nanok WYP-169 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12318  
USS Natsek WYP-170 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12319  
USS Naugatuck WYP-92 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #19724  
USS Nogak WYP-171 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12320  
USS Northland WPG-49 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #21651  
USS North Star WPG-59 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12322  
USS Peoria PF-67 (WWII) #11077  
USS Raritan WYT-93 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12323  
USS Sea Cloud (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #18758  
USS Sorrell WAGL-296 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12324  
USS Southwind WAG-280 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12325  
USS Storis WAGL-38 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12326  
USS Tahoma WPG-80 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12327  
USS Tampa WPG-48 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12328  
USS Travis WSC-153 (Greenland Patrol 1940/45) #12329  
VP-6, PBV-5A Catalinas (Greenland Patrol 1940-45) #12336

## Merchant Marine

Veterans Day Salute-Washington, DC (all veterans) #19921

## Miscellaneous

369 EAFR, C Co. #19522  
A/B Vets International Assn. #17307  
AP Transport Reunion Group #18620  
Assn. of Gunner's Mates (WWII/Present, USN/USCG) #22689  
Battle of the Bulge Vets Inc. (WWII) #12798  
Black Pearl Vets (IWO JIMA 45-68) #14911  
DCA-SEA (VN) / DCA-SAM (HI) #22792  
FMF Combat Med. Pers. Assn. (WWII, Korea, VN, Incl. Navy/Mar.) #12524  
Giltmo Bay, Cuba (1950-Present) #22914  
Greenland Patrol (WWII, All 45 Vessels & Shore Stns) #23112  
Iwo Jima Veterans Nat'l Assn. #17308  
LST-597 (WWII) #19647  
LST Assn. (IL Chapt.) #19707  
LST Assn. (OH Chapt.) #19102  
Marine/Navy Parachute Units (WWII) #17132  
Montford Point Marine Assn., Inc. #17096  
NAS Kaneohe Bay, "Kaneohe Kilppers" (Navy/Marines, '39/50) #20929  
Nat'l Korean War Veterans Reunion (Men/Women) #19228  
NESEP/MECEP Graduates (All Years) #19993  
NOB (China) #19596  
Pensacola Pre-Flight Class 39-65 #19928  
Solomon Islands Vets (WWII) #19708  
The Rhodesian Vets. Assn. #13030  
USS Garrett County LST-786 (All Years) #19670  
USS Intensity (CG/Navy) #22395  
Veterans Day Salute-Washington, DC (all veterans) #19919  
Wm. Beaumont General Hosp., Dental Tech. Sch. (12/43-3/44) #13328  
Zittau Survivors #22851



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**Prevent uncontrollable wetting!**

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**Empty bladder completely!**

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**Please a concerned wife!**



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Barboursville, WV

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-- Mr. G. Howard  
Cleveland, OH

*"I empty my bladder and have a good stream of urine with no strain."*

-- Mr. S.J. Hymel  
Houma, LA

*"...and in the sex department, my wife thanks you."*

-- Mr. G. Sawin  
Lynwood, WA

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☐ PS6 6 month supply only **\$119.95** (Save \$89.75) plus \$4.50 S&H  
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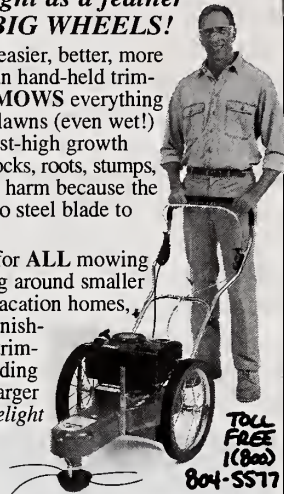
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## KOREA

Continued from page 16

the White House. I suppose that from certain vantage points in the White House you can see it, or at least see the people clustered about it. Which is only fitting. If, as President, you're going to order people into battle—conceivably to their deaths—you should have to face the results: the loss, the mourning of their loved ones.

By the end of this day, an estimated 50,000 people will have crammed this 2.2-acre site, which is covered with tents that remind many onlookers of Korean War-era bivouacs. There is a military museum tent, brimming with dramatic photos of wartime Korea—incinerated tanks, defoliated hillsides, battle-weary battalions. There is an entertainment tent, slated to host performances by country-and-western star Billy Ray Cyrus and others. A chapel tent depicts "Navy Religious Ministries in the Korean War." The biggest attraction, though, seems to be a tent called Korea Then and Now. The unmistakable emphasis here is on tourism, with photographs of lovely rolling greenery, welcoming faces, golf courses—in short, the image of an Asian resort paradise. "Somehow Korea didn't look this friendly when I was there 40 years ago," a white-haired man mutters to his wife.

But the centerpiece of the day-long commemoration is, of course, the memorial itself. Observed from the walkway that runs its perimeter, it is a jarring sight: as if 19 soldiers have been frozen in perpetual youth. The life-size statues march at intervals of perhaps five yards in a roughly triangular formation. Their body language is tense; their faces are vacant, gaunt—"haunted," as someone puts it. In the background, eyeing the combat-ready formation from a long, polished wall, are the sand-blasted, ghost-like images of support personnel.

The scene is highly emotional, and yet the feeling here is somewhat different from that of other memorials, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in particular. Yes, this memorial has the same capacity to bring a lump to the throat, to stop conversation in mid-sentence, much as "The Wall" does. But it also tends to ignite conversation through the questions it raises. What is the emotion in the eyes of the faces on the mural as they stare at the marching soldiers? What are the troops themselves thinking as they march? By far the most speculation focuses on the

last soldier in the formation: *Why is he looking behind him as he advances?* Maybe, someone suggests, he is awaiting reinforcements—the support that was always promised but too often failed to materialize in Korea.

Or maybe, as someone else ventures, he is simply glancing back toward America, longing for the peace and tranquility of home.

That is what I mostly think about on the flight back to Indianapolis. I remember that last soldier looking homeward and the remarks Jesse Brown made at Arlington. He referred to our soldiers as "ambassadors of peace." He also said, "History cannot be un-lived, but if faced with courage, it need not be lived again." Perhaps this is the deeper meaning of all war memorials: By confronting us with the tragedy of death, they remind us of the sanctity of life.

I think, too, of the young man on Constitution Avenue whose question revealed his ignorance. While it is sad that he and his generation as a whole have precious little sense of history, there is something to be said for the fact that we live in an era of relative calm, that these sheltered young men by and large never had to deal firsthand with the ugliness of battle—that their knowledge of war is limited to what they see on television. In this context, a war memorial becomes an ironic token of our desire for a world where no further memorials need ever be built.

I don't think the men who served in Korea or anywhere else would mind if their one, true, lasting monument turned out to be peace. □

—By Steve Salerno

## COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these veterans are urged to write a witness letter, including the CID number. Send the letters to CID, The American Legion Magazine, Box 1055, Indianapolis IN 46206.

Notices are published only at the requests of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants using Search for Witness Forms available from Legion Department Service Officers.

336th Bomb Gp. John G. Latiolais needs witnesses to verify that stationed with the 336th Bomb Gp. In 1943 or 1944, his plane was shot down. Contact CID 1298.

G/29th F.A., Vietnam Gary N. Kodash needs witnesses to verify that while stationed at LZ West, he rescued the pilot and co-pilot of a downed CH-49. Contact CID 1299.

USS McCawley Willie L. Bagley Jr. needs witnesses to verify that while stationed aboard the McCawley during 1942-46, he was treated for arthritis. Contact CID 1297.

USS Shadwell LSD-15 John W. Humphreys needs witnesses to verify that while stationed on the ship at Labrador, Canada in late May 1953, he fell from the super deck to the main deck, injuring his left hip and right wrist. Contact CID 1300.

WAC Det., 130th Station Hospital Elma Jacqueline Casper needs witnesses to verify that while stationed at Heidelberg, Germany, in the spring of 1955, she fell on the barracks floor. Contact CID 1296.



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## THE BIG LIE

*Continued from page 18*

states, "Health care is provided to you and your family members while you are in the Army, and for the rest of your life if you serve a minimum of 20 years."

Which sounds very much like a promise.

"The bastards lied to us, they're lying to us, they're going to continue to lie to us," Hosmer fumes. "It makes me feel angry that I spent 21 years of my life being underpaid and overworked and now I'm being betrayed and I feel like a damn fool for doing it."

He has written letters to just about everyone he can think of, from the President to Congress to the Department of Defense. He has been told that budgets are tight and benefits are available elsewhere than at Madigan.

He was told by Col. Kenneth Leisher of the office of the surgeon general that the military "is actively implementing health-care programs and services for all our beneficiaries, consistent with the existing legislative mandate. We are working to promote management initiatives that will further improve efficiencies and optimize the capabilities of the military direct-care system."

Optimized efficiencies and active implementations notwithstanding, a lie, for Ray Hosmer, is still a lie.

"If I don't keep my contract with the government, I'd go to jail," he says. "If they don't want to keep their contract with me, they just pass another damn law. I grew up believing that a handshake was good enough."

But the truth is—it wasn't. ☐

*C.R. Roberts' column appears Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in The News Tribune of Tacoma, Wash.*

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded Life Memberships by their Posts.

Life membership notices must be submitted on official forms which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Life Memberships, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis IN 46206.

Richard C. Augustson, Francis W. Payne, Adrian S. Roberts Jr. (1994) Post 36, Tucson, AZ  
Gary Dwyer, Melvin Wancowicz (1993), Georgianna Moulton (1995) Post 132, Orange, CA  
Robert B. Galvin (deceased) (1978), Lois B. Galvin (1979), Melvin Green (1981) Post 684, Ridgecrest, CA

Please turn to page 62



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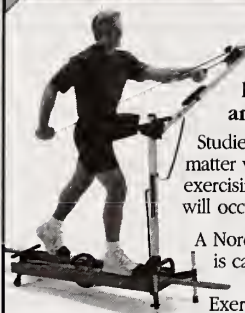
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## ST. GEORGE

Continued from page 27

water was strictly rationed—every drop had to be hauled in—quarters were not hosed down or even mopped.

Parrish, the former mayor of Hackensack, Minn., has two daughters. The first was born before the atomic tests, and the other was adopted. "After I returned from Nevada," he says, "my wife and I tried to have more children. Three were stillborn and the other two were miscarriages. Later, doctors told us my sperm was unhealthy."

He filed a VA claim, but VA said his wife's miscarriages could not be considered a disability to him. Later doctors removed a tumor on one of his testicles. Then followed cataracts; tumors on the roof of his mouth, the bottom of his foot, his neck and his spine; lung problems; and severe cluster headaches.

Other members of the 216th—those who are still alive—have reported similar experiences.

Which begs a key question. How many have died, sired children with birth defects, became sterile or battled various cancers? According to Dr. Oscar Rosen, president of the National Association of Atomic Veterans, the answer is: no one knows for sure.

**N**OT MUCH has changed since 1946. When veterans and downwinders finally began to question what was happening to them, there seemed to be only one plausible answer: exposure to radiation. Still, the AEC denied it. Instead of admitting its mistakes, the agency launched a campaign to discredit the casualties. According to Stewart Udall, it worked. Atomic veterans and downwinders came to be looked upon as whiners, complainers, kooks, gold-diggers—even communist sympathizers.

In truth, as once-secret documents would reveal, the AEC knew precisely what had happened. Consider what transpired in the spring of 1953 during the Upshot-Knothole series. As the tests were taking place, 12,000 sheep grazed in open lands downwind, some within 50 miles of Ground Zero. Tons of dirt and dust were sucked into the air and deposited downwind. In spite of this, officials made no attempt to evacuate the downwind areas.

Unlike cattle, sheep graze right down to the ground. At the same time,

their wool acts like a natural magnet for dust. When the herds reached the lambing yards in Cedar City, Utah, near the end of the 1953 tests, herds-men reported that wool sheared off in odd clumps; sores and blisters were evident on the animals' faces; and new lambs were either stillborn with gross deformities or born too weak to nurse. Within days, 5,000 lambing ewes and lambs were dead.

The sheepmen went to the government for compensation. The AEC sent government veterinarians out to inspect the animals and found the sheep had absorbed huge doses of radiation. This was not, however, the report the AEC released. So the sheepmen went to court and the AEC's own veterinarians, who at first were willing to testify on behalf of the sheep herders, were intimidated into backing off.

The AEC told the court that radiation could not have killed the sheep. The agency proceeded to discredit the veterinarians' original reports and file its own findings. The AEC's conclusions? The sheep had died of poisonous weeds and malnutrition.

During the congressional hearings in 1978-79, documents revealed the AEC had falsified records and fallout maps. Judge Sherman Christiansen, who originally heard the sheepmen's case, was now a federal judge, and the petition to reopen the suit landed in his court. The judge was outraged. In a 56-page opinion, he granted the sheepmen a new trial, holding that high-level federal lawyers, abetted by high-level federal employees, defrauded his court. Stewart Udall was ecstatic, believing that others would finally have their day in court and the facts would be revealed.

It was not to be. In what Udall described as "a grotesque episode of American jurisprudence," the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit canceled the new trial. In essence, the federal government would not allow itself to be sued.

On the surface, at least, the years have brought about some progress in pursuing cases for radiation-related damages. VA and the Justice Department now recognize 13 cancers connected to atomic testing. But according to Udall and other veterans' advocates, it is nearly impossible to get a claim through the system because the guidelines and rules are so narrowly drawn; also, much of the vital information, such as personnel records and film badges, has disappeared. Government radiation monitors who worked in areas like St. George have testified that

*Please turn page*



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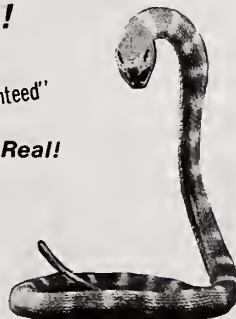
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## ST. GEORGE

*Continued from page 60*

when badges indicated an over-exposure to radiation, often they were simply discarded.

Some believe that because of its pattern of denials, Washington has wedged itself into a corner, so that even if it wanted to compensate veterans and others, it's awkward to do so without contradicting positions the government has been defending for years. Worse, such admissions would prove extraordinarily costly, as evidenced by the written testimony of Rick Cotton, then executive secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, supplied to the 1979 joint congressional committee. According to Cotton, "Even with the best epidemiological evidence, the clinical features of radiation-induced cancers are indistinguishable from features of other cancers that occur in the population at large."

For such reasons, critics have suggested that the federal government is waiting for enough victims to die off to make compensation a more manageable burden on the American taxpayer.

The end result, according to Sen. Paul Wellstone of Minnesota, is that out of 16,000 claims filed with VA since 1985, only 1,500 have been approved. And where does VA get its information for reconstructing exposure?

From the Defense Nuclear Agency—the entity that took AEC's place and uses AEC's "findings" to validate the potential exposure of veterans.

To Wellstone and others, this flies in the face of VA's statutory obligations and its own regulation concerning "reasonable doubt." VA's Code of Federal Regulations 38-3.12 states very clearly that if the evidence presented in a veteran's claim is so evenly balanced that the condition may or may not be service-connected, VA is to give the veteran the benefit of the doubt. Considering that an "atomic veteran's" VA claim is at least as likely to have been radiation-caused cancer as not, it is hard to explain why only about 10 percent of all claims filed have been honored.

In a letter to VA Secretary Jesse Brown signed by nine other lawmakers, Wellstone pointed out that VA currently uses two lists in evaluating atomic claims. One is based on VA regulations and cites 19 conditions linked to radiation exposure. A second list, based on a law passed two years ago, directs VA to consider as service-connected any

veteran exposed to radiation with any of 15 specific diseases, most of them cancers, without regard to dose, exposure or other requirements.

Wrote Wellstone: "Mr. Secretary, we believe that there is absolutely no reason for forcing atomic veterans to deal with two conflicting sets of rules, one of which is so restrictive that very few veterans can meet its standards."

VA replied, "We do not believe that there is sufficient scientific basis to support blanket assumptions of service connection for all radiogenic diseases suffered by atomic veterans."

Stewart Udall states that the same stringent requirements have been imposed by the Department of Justice in awarding atomic compensation to veterans, their widows and those who worked at the test site.

What would it take to prove these cancers resulted from radiation exposure? According to government science experts, all told, some 400,000 U.S. citizens were potentially placed at risk. An inquiry of this size would require an additional million or more people who were not in any risk group. The government is simply not willing to fund a study that embraces 1.4 million people.

Also, there is no current regulation that would compensate a parent like Scott Prisbrey or scores of others who have been forced to watch their children suffer. Last year, Sen. Wellstone and West Virginia Sen. John "Jay" Rockefeller sponsored legislation authorizing research into the feasibility of a study on possible birth defects caused by ionizing radiation. However, just as the government asserted in 1979, researchers claim the numbers are so large, and so much time has passed, that there is no feasible way to conduct a study.

Said National Commander Daniel A. Ludwig, "The message here is very clear. Federal policy seems to be that if one of its agencies manages to maim or destroy enough lives, a study becomes impossible. And without a study, compensation or even a simple apology is unnecessary. The American Legion finds this attitude despicable."

**T**ODAY, St. George, Utah, is no longer a sleepy little agrarian community. Its balmy year-round weather, relaxed life style and proximity to Zion National Park make St. George a natural attraction. With a population of nearly 50,000, the town caters to a large retirement community and a steady flow of tourists. Many St. George business people were not born and raised there. Those who were have

seen their property values skyrocket and want nothing to happen that would devalue it.

Said one businessman when he discovered THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE was planning an article on downwinders, "Radiation? Aw, you're not going to dredge up that old stuff again, are you?" The magazine was informed by the businessman that the radiation question had been kept alive by a handful of malcontents, and was "bad for business."

Meanwhile, Scott Prisbrey stands in the graveyard, clutching his son's picture. "God never intended for a parent to outlive his child," he whispers. From the west, the hills seem to reply, "There is no danger." □

## IN SEARCH OF...

This column is for readers searching for groups of veterans for purposes other than forming a reunion (use VETS column) or to find witnesses to verify VA health claims (use COMRADES IN DISTRESS column). No notices seeking information about relatives or friends will be published. Notices are published free, on a space-available basis. If a notice does not appear within six months of submission, please resubmit.

6th Special Seabees, those who were at the Oct. 1, 1943 landing on Vella Lavella, crew of the USS Zaurak and veterans of other stevedoring battalions from all branches of the service, for a book. Contact: Frank Jardim, 705 Linden Place, Cranford, NJ 07016; (908) 272-8762 evenings.

A WWII history of the 301st Inf. Rgt., 94th Div. Contact: Gerald L. Gilbert, 9 Oakville Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15220.

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

*Continued from page 58*

Richard Davidson, Joseph Davignon, Joseph D. MacKenzie, George St. Onge (1994) Post 1, St. Lambert, Que., CAN

Wm. Frazier Brinley (1991) Post 103, Westbrook, CT  
Robert E. Tharp (1994) Post 55, Farmer City, IL  
Louis P. Berger, Bert P. DePue, Ralph Doty, Robert C. Pray, Lloyd E. Springer (1994) Post 241, Ft. Wayne, IN

Daniel J. Mahoney, Edward A. McAllister (1994) Post 294, Quincy, MA

Benjamin F. Bohrer, William S. Penn, Robert E. Smith, John O. Steel, Harvey W. Tabler (1995) Post 191, Mount Airy, MD

Richard E. Penoyer, Donald J. Sloyer, Dominick P. Tragna (1995) Post 49, South Haven, MI

John L. Panula, Hugh D. Stewart (1995) Post 74, Newberry, MI

Victor Okerstrom (1995) Post 22, St. Francis, MN  
F.E. Audibert Jr., Norman B. Rainier, Robert Wright (1988), Paul M. Stow (1989), William B. Hutchinson Jr. (1992), Robert P. Shreve (1993) Post 38, Haddonfield, NJ

Joseph P. Donovan, Bernard A. Walsh (1995) Post 377, Goshen, NY

Donald King (1995) Post 658, Fair Haven, NY

Arthur F. Ausburn, Allen Karl, Orris Oswald, Dwight Pero, Charles A. Provo (1994), Robert M. Butler, Paul L. Dalton, Frank A. Greene, John P. Jones, Lawrence Leyburn, Ronald Lloyd, Claude E. Olmstead, Francis Porter, Glenn Taber, John V. Vinquist, Calvin Weldon (1995) Post 911, Cato, NY

Alfred Demmler, Phillip Karavlan (1994) Post 116, Avalon, PA

G. Gary Foote, W. Dee Smith, James M. Vettorl (1995) Post 166, Tumwater, WA

Fredrick Korth, Robert Lechner, John Leder, George Niedermaier, Harvey Schellpfeffer, Charles Wagner, Robert Walther, Jerome Zuelsdorf (1995) Post 69, Mayville, WI

Walter J. Hergert (1995) Post 70, Oshkosh, WI



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# SHOCKWAVES

*Continued from page 29*

ing to the days of the house with the white picket fence?

**A.** That's from a time before the information age, before the jet plane, before birth control pills. There's no longer any controlling the free flow of information, not with computers, Internet and satellites beaming television signals from around the world into our homes. There just is no returning to the culture and morality of the 1950s, just as there is no going back to the industrialized economy symbolized by River Rouge.

**Q.** U.S. business in recent years has taken great strides toward "downsizing" its bureaucracies and becoming more Third-Wave high-tech. How is the federal government doing in that area?

**A.** All our governments are Second Wave, and are obsolete. The center of government is overloaded, trying to do too many things about too many issues that are increasingly complex.

Here's what a U.S. senator recently said to me: "I'm on this committee, that subcommittee, this joint committee.... Do you think I really know what I'm supposed to know in order to make intelligent decisions? It's impossible.

So who decides how I vote on these issues? My staff. Who elected them?"

What's the solution? Decentralization, with less decision making taking place in Washington.

**Q.** Are you saying the gridlock that afflicts Washington is less a consequence of the individuals we elect than a product of the institutions we elect them to?

**A.** That's right. This isn't a case where some people, by virtue of talent, can get the job done and others cannot. We could have 535 geniuses in Congress and they'd still make stupid decisions because they are paralyzed by the system.

**Q.** You live in Los Angeles. Does the idea of decentralizing so the Los Angeles City Council has more power actually comfort you?

**A.** Moving power downward won't give us a utopia. There is plenty of political stupidity in the state houses and the city halls, and in the long run, all of these slow-moving, bureaucratic,

Second Wave institutions will have to be busted up. It is a scary idea, and I know that changing decision-making in Washington and around the country will open all kinds of cans of worms: Are we endangering democracy by even thinking about serious changes in government?

On the other hand, what is our future with a Second Wave government that produces solutions and programs that cannot work?

**Q.** Can you give us an example of a government program that simply cannot work properly because it's obsolete?

**A.** Unemployment. In a Second Wave economy, the traditional solution has been to stimulate the economy by manipulating interest rates, changing tax rates, or running up government deficits. Often it worked: Jobs were created and the unemployed were put to work.

But it does not happen that way in the Third Wave. Even if we stimulate the economy and create jobs, the unemployed cannot always *do* the jobs. So solving the unemployment problem becomes much harder.

**Q.** Can't we retrain the unemployed to fill the new jobs?

**A.** That's the traditional Second Wave response, with the government setting up and running retraining programs. But change is occurring so fast in the economy and in technologies that by the time retraining is completed the skill requirements may have changed again. And nobody is smart enough to know tomorrow's skill requirements.

But there is a Third Wave solution: voucherization. Give the money to the unemployed and let them decide how they want to be retrained. This is exactly how the GI Bill worked after World War II. You could use the money to go to Princeton University or to refrigeration school. It worked then and, I believe, if we let people decide for themselves what they are good at and what training they need, it will work again today.

**Q.** How do you feel about the so-called "electronic town hall," where citizens vote by computer on all the issues of the day?

**A.** I absolutely do not support the electronic town halls talked about by Ross Perot.

I do not want to do away with representative government—there are good reasons to keep representatives involved in decision making. But there

are also ways to radically broaden citizen participation by using new technologies.

**Q.** How would this increased participation work?

**A.** Let's say we have an electronic referendum where we all are able to register an opinion on an issue, perhaps by punching a few keys on a computer keyboard. When the vote is counted, we have to decide what weight to give this citizen participation. For instance, we can say the majority wins or we can say that the fact that the majority favors Option A should influence members of Congress in how they vote but will not *determine* the vote in Congress.

In the same vein, we might say that if Congress is to vote against the majority [of the people], it will need more than a simple majority to pass opposing legislation—perhaps a 60 percent vote.

**Q.** What you're saying only makes sense if computers are everywhere in our society. It won't work if computer literacy is restricted to an electronic elite.

**A.** The latest figures I saw say that 27 percent of adult whites and 14 percent of adult blacks and Latinos have a computer at home. Forty-seven percent of whites and about 36 percent of blacks and 29 percent of Latinos use a computer at work.

Within a decade, computers will be virtually universal, as ubiquitous as the telephone. I do not believe we will have a large population that is excluded from the system.

**Q.** You're essentially arguing that computers are a great democratizing force.

**A.** What we call "democracy"—and it has been magnificent—has been a centralized democracy that fit perfectly in a Second Wave society. But in our Third Wave society, there are higher degrees of individuality and diversity. I'm not just talking about whites, blacks, Latinos and Asians. There are Americans who are pro-choice, others who are anti-abortion. There are fundamentalist Christians and atheists. There are smokers and anti-smokers. It is getting hard to get a majority of Americans to agree on anything, because increasingly, Americans prize their differences. So what we need to do is move towards a democratic system that recognizes our higher degree of diversity and seeks to harness it for the benefit of all. □



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# 911

Continued from page 32

part of the national culture. But if the systems are to continue saving lives, better dispatcher training, new equipment and penalties for misuse of the number are mandatory.

Some positive steps are being taken. Until recently, prank callers could get away with harassing operators or calling 911 continuously. Now, several state legislatures, including those of California and New Jersey, are drafting laws that would make it a crime to abuse the emergency system. And several cities are now "demarketing" 911—publicizing numbers for non-emergencies and warning people not to summon an ambulance for minor medical problems.

In the push for better training, safety groups such as NENA and APCO are making strides in raising civic and government awareness of the need for dispatch professionals. But some strong biases must be overcome.

"In the military, communications was always a priority function," says Bitoff. "It's where you put some of your best people and their work is valued. In observing civilian organizations around the country, I sense that front-line people [i.e., firemen and policemen] don't always hold the communications group in as high regard.

"This is not wise. For communications, the Navy has the world's best equipment, training and people," says Bitoff. "There's no reason civilian emergency services shouldn't be just as good and viewed with equally high regard."

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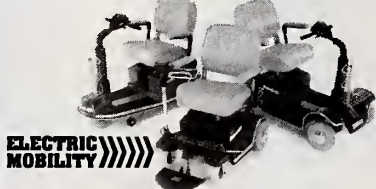
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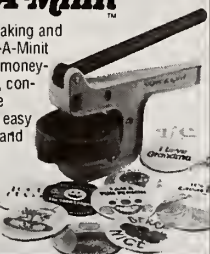
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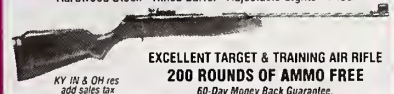
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## Social Insecurity

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## Play Money

Overheard at a PTO meeting: "I was going to teach my children the value of a dollar, but why spoil their chance of becoming politicians?"

## Gimme A Slice

Maybe it's just a coincidence, but have you noticed that when magazines illustrate the percentage of people who are overweight, they always use a pie chart?

## Double Billing

If you think hospital rooms are expensive now, here's the latest: Maternity hospitals are charging for a single when you go in and a double when you leave.

## Yes I Am

Modern manager's motto: "I came, I saw, I concurred."

## Wheels & Deals

A contractor wanted to grease the wheels for a deal by offering the government agent a small token of appreciation. The contractor asked if the agent would mind having a nice foreign sports car. The agent was indignant, "I can't accept a gift like that. It's a bribe!"

The contractor said, "Would it be all right if I sold you the sports car?"

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"Ten dollars," replied the contractor, slyly.

"In that case," responded the agent, "I'll take two!"

## Repo Doc

Years ago, when people couldn't pay their medical bills, doctors accepted things other than money for payment. Today, some still do: They take houses, cars, furniture....

## Up Periscope

A rising tide lifts all ships. But did you ever get the feeling you're in a submarine?

## More Than Modems

"Computers are useless—they can only give you answers."

—Pablo Picasso

## Penalty Stroke

Overheard in the clubhouse: "Golf is a game of strokes. I just saw a guy have one trying to get out of the sand trap."

## Funny Papers

These headlines could have used a little editing:

Are young Americans be getting stupider?

Change found in subways: Panhandling is down

Chancellor wants student to take required courses

Teen sex found to be steady

Chinese claim to have dinosaur genes

## Legal Brief

A doctor, lawyer and mathematician were debating which profession was mentioned first in the Bible.

"God removed a rib from Adam to make Eve," said the doctor. "That involved a surgical procedure, so doctors were mentioned first."

"No, no," countered the mathematician. "God created order out of chaos and that required math. So my profession was mentioned first."

The lawyer coyly smiled, and said, "No, lawyers were mentioned first. Who do you think created the chaos?"



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